

ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-FIRST ANNUAL GENERAL REPORT OF THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

2016



Published by

THE INTERNATIONAL SECRETARY
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020, INDIA

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Presidential Address

To the 141st Annual Convention of the Theosophical Society
Adyar, 31 December 2016

On this opening day of the 141st Convention of the Theosophical Society (TS), I would like to warmly welcome you all at Adyar after another year of challenging and important work around the theosophical world. On this occasion, let us remember the many members all over the world who are with us while watching via webcasting, and those in spirit though not in body, who like the rest of us seek wisdom for the sake of others. Let us also open our hearts to the Holy Ones who show the way to all those who seek selflessly, and guide every person who is prepared to learn. Please rise:

**May those who are the embodiment of Love Immortal
bless with their help and guidance this Society, founded
to be a channel for their work. May They inspire it with
their Wisdom, strengthen it with their Power, and energize
it with their activity.**

I am very glad to open this 141st Annual Convention of the TS.

The eighteenth century poet, William Wordsworth, captured a sense of the human dilemma when he wrote, “the world is too much with us; late and soon, getting and spending we lay waste our powers.” In his time the invasive pressures of “the world” were being powerfully expressed in the Industrial Revolution that was changing the face of long-accepted social, economic, and political structures in Britain. Gandhi expressed the same idea very differently when he said that “to a hungry man, a piece of bread is the face of God.” Whether it is the preoccupation with “getting and spending”, providing nourishment for our bodies, or checking and responding to an endless stream of email and text messages, we find our at-

tention absorbed by an outer world whose reality is continually confirmed by our needy involvement with it. Everywhere we look we see the conflict, limitation, and unhappiness that are the necessary result of our conviction that we are separate from each other and from the natural world. HPB described our condition as the “heresy of separateness”. What we experience as normal and real, is viewed in the Ageless Wisdom tradition as fundamentally unreal. It is the *māyā*, the illusion, that binds us to an unrelenting cycle of suffering and need.

There is something which lies beyond illusion. Though our experience of it is weak, our remembrance dim, still it lives on the periphery of our awareness, always

waiting for those moments when the grip of our illusory attachment weakens. At those moments it makes its presence known in a brightened perception of the present moment. So different are these momentary experiences from the dreary norm that they become the touchstones for our life's direction. In the words of Albert Camus: "In the depths of winter, I finally learned that within me there lay an invincible summer." Illusion and reality are part of one fabric.

The prevailing quality of our forays into reality is a sense of expansion and connection. The more profound the experience, the deeper the awareness of an all-pervading, undivided consciousness — the sky encompasses both clouds and earth; though space seems to divide, in reality it connects, defines, and pervades all things. We live, move, and have our being within that consciousness which not only unites, but is Unity itself.

Although the voices of religion, phi-

losophy, and contemporary science are calling out for us to deepen our awareness of the power of unity, the only call which we can truly hear and respond to is that muffled voice within us — the voice of our own Higher Self. In its still, small tone it continually calls out through the intervening layers of our busyness and worldly involvement to look beyond illusion.

The Theosophical Society's emphasis on the primacy of the Universal Brotherhood of Humanity is in a sense the means and goal of our practice. At whatever level we are able to see, and then engage with the separative tendencies of our mind, we lift a little of the heavy karma of this world. In *At the Feet of the Master* the statement is made that "though a thousand men agree upon a subject, if they know nothing about that subject their opinion is of no value". Both value and power flow into the world as our study and practice verge onto genuine inner experience.

* * *

As this is my last full year as National President of the **TS in America** (TSA), we will begin with what is my last report of TSA work in this capacity. Last year the imminent closing of Quest Books publications was a sad announcement. Now it seems that last year's report was premature, because their reduction in the publication of new books per year resulted in TPH operations being profitable for the first time in more than 20 years! Online education efforts via Internet-based seminars and classes (or webinars) continued to grow. They are available

through the TSA website and their YouTube channel. The information technology and audiovisual department head, with his assistant, came to Adyar to live-stream last year's international convention. Public programs are now offered every day of the week and on some days there are multiple programs. Attendance increased in every category of programming.

The National Secretary reports that the TSA, with 3,343 members in 38 Lodges remains stable, and that 58 percent of all new membership applications are

received online. National speakers were scheduled at 48 different venues. The Prison Program continues to be active and to touch the lives of hundreds of prisoners. The Olcott Library and Archives director produced the first digitized book for their Theosophical Digital Collection. The Archivist continues to assist researchers, members, and staff around the world. She coordinates the online theosophical encyclopedia, Theosophy Wiki, now available in French, Russian, Spanish, and English. Quest Book Shop added 120 titles to the Theosophy section, a number of which were newly integrated into other categories of relevance, doubling the sales of theosophical books.

The Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) in the USA publishes *The Spirit of Service* e-newsletter 3 or 4 times per year. Their healing network has 46 groups and many individuals performing regular healing meditations. Their magazine, *For the Love of Life*, is published annually. TOS funds were granted to a conference on theosophical education in Odisha, India. Emergency funds were sent to Adyar in January for Chennai flood relief; in September to the Italian TOS for earthquake relief; and to the Louisiana TOS also for flood relief. Finally, a grant was given to the TOS Annie Besant Model School in Odisha, India.

The **Brazilian** Section has 782 members and 33 Lodges. The National Council met in January in Esmeraldas during their 35th Summer School, and in July, during their Winter School, at the Institute in Brasília. They also held the Interna-

tional Theosophical School at the Theosophical Institute, with visiting lecturers Fernando de Torrijos from USA, and Barend Voorham, of the TS Point Loma in the Netherlands; and the 2nd Youth International Meeting in February with my participation. The Regional Councils met once each semester in the four different regions, giving seminars, workshops, and lectures. Their various departments are working at a fast pace. *Sophia* magazine has 636 subscribers, being sold at newsstands all over the country. The TOS is active in four cities with fundraising activities and assistance to the needy.

In **Cuba** the Section membership rose from 558 to 566 in 12 Lodges. Its annual convention was celebrated in January on "The Feminine Aspect in Manifestation". Lodge studies continued with various themes based on theosophical books, lectures, and articles. They are studying Annie Besant's *Thought Power* and *Esoteric Christianity*, *The Hidden Side of Things* by Leadbeater, and others. All Lodges in the Section celebrated the official dates of our Society: Founders', Adyar, and White Lotus Days. In July the Lodges in Havana organized a summer school on "Four Basic Ideas for the Study of *The Secret Doctrine*", as a workshop for members. The Section's online magazine, *Revista Teosófica Cubana*, continued its quarterly publication.

The **Argentinian** Section, with 328 members, held a book fair in Río Cuarto, where they distributed flyers on the work of the TS and sold a number of theosophical books. About 2,500 information brochures titled "You Are Invited"

were distributed nationwide, and in Paraguay. In mid-March I gave a public conference held in San Rafael on "The Root of All Problems", with 250 persons attending. This was followed by the 3rd Seminar of Luso (Portuguese)-Hispanic Theosophy, jointly organized by the Inter-American Theosophical Federation (IATF) and the Argentinian Section on "The Change to Individual Transformation", attended by myself and around 110 persons from nine different countries.

The TS in **Mexico**, with 148 members, hosted the IATF's "First Encounter of North America" in Cholula, Puebla, in late March on "Applying the Principles of the Ageless Wisdom", with myself as their guest of honor. It was a good event with many members and non-members attending. In mid-December they held a two-day Wisdom School on the "Katha Upanishad" at the National Headquarters, with two guests from Spain: Drs Isaac Jauli and Enrique Reig, whose presentations were well received.

In **Bolivia** the Section's membership has increased to 122. They were visited by Drs Isaac Jauli and Enrique Reig in Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, and La Paz for three days in late May and early June, holding workshops and public conferences. Their national conferences were held in Cochabamba in mid-August on "Service, Study, and Self-knowledge" by Radha Burnier; and in La Paz in late September on "Probation and Chelaship".

The TS in **Canada**, with 118 members, has a new Lodge in Val-David, near Montreal, and they also appointed a new Treasurer. Also, new study centers were

approved in Calgary and Nanaimo. Their annual general meeting was held in September in Quebec. Vice-President Robert Béland returned to Adyar last December and January to attend the School of the Wisdom and International Convention, and in July the Organizing Secretary attended the National Convention of the TS in America.

The **Costa Rican** Presidential Agency has 59 members in 5 Lodges. Their studies included several of H. P. Blavatsky's classics and others. An "Introductory Course of Theosophy" was offered to the public free of charge from January through July by Ligia Montiel Longhi.

In the **Uruguayan** Regional Association all of their 6 Lodges meet weekly, having added three members last year, for a total of 56. The Lodges studied Radha Burnier's *Human Regeneration*, among other books; articles from the Spanish Section magazine, *Sophia*, were also studied, and they showed videos of a seminar given for Arjuna Lodge in Spain by Dr Isaac Jauli, and a video with Juan Viñas giving a lecture in Brasilia.

In **Colombia** there has been a change of Presidential Representative, from Nelly Medina to Antonio Martínez. They now have 52 members in 8 Lodges. They offer a basic course on "Approaching Theosophy". The TOS is active in Bogotá and in rural areas, and they also hold meditations for Peace. The Round Table ritual is performed by young people, and they have been receiving the *Theosophical Readers' Digest* published in the Philippines continuously since 1952.

The TS in **Chile**, with 50 members,

held its national Convention in April on "Discovering Ourselves". They have 50 members and disseminate Theosophy by distributing pamphlets in subways, on electronic pages, in their magazine, and online radio to transmit lectures and classes. Information can also be obtained on their website. Their "Theosophical Electronic Brochure" and their magazine are sent monthly to different Spanish-speaking countries. They also have a team translating articles and books, and collaborating with the translation of *The Theosophist* into Spanish.

In November, the **Dominican Republic** Presidential Agency, with 42 members, hosted 96 members from the three Americas and the Caribbean. They heard a well-attended public lecture by Dr Isaac Jauli. Then began the Seminar of the Caribbean Basin on "An Illumined Mind", with 8 speakers from 6 countries. Two visiting speakers were hosted by the Presidential Representative, Fernando de Torrijos, who gave a lecture at a University, two public lectures, and a well-attended workshop; and Terry Hunt, who gave a public lecture and directed a three-day retreat on Raja Yoga. The Lodges studied the Mahatma Letters all year long in addition to many other theosophical subjects.

The TS in **Puerto Rico**, has 39 members in 3 Lodges. They offered a quarterly program of conferences and almost every Sunday gave public lectures on "What is Theosophy?" and "The Law of Cycles", among other topics. In November, Inter-American Federation president Isis Resende gave two public lectures.

The Presidential Agency in **Peru**, with 33 members in 2 Lodges, offered seventeen public talks on various topics. They freely offered an internet course on Theosophy, and HPB Lodge also offered a course in July on "The Basis of Esoteric Philosophy".

The TS in **Venezuela**, with 16 members in 2 Lodges, celebrated Foundation Day and White Lotus Day. Both Lodges have joint meetings, studying I. K. Taimni's *The Secret of Self-Realization*. Oscar José Hernández holds regular retreats in the state of Bolívar to teach Theosophy to a group of aborigines.

The **Central American** Regional Association has 2 Lodges totaling 14 members. One Lodge has its own website: <www.sociedadteosoficaelsalvador.org>. They held a total of eight public lectures and studied HPB's *The Secret Doctrine*, J. Krishnamurti's *At the Feet of the Master*, and Annie Besant's *Esoteric Christianity*. They also gave four conferences sponsored by the Inter-American Federation.

The **Italian Section**, now the largest in Europe with 934 members in 29 Lodges and 20 study centers, carries out "members only" meetings and public conferences. Their website attracts around 4,000 visits per month with videos of theosophical conferences, now featuring a section on the TOS. They publish 1,300 copies of their monthly magazine, with over 1,000 subscriptions. Also, their monthly e-newsletter is sent to over 4,500 interested readers. The Section and nine other Lodges have launched their official Facebook page. New Facebook pages for

their publishing house and the Italian TOS are also online. Their publishing house website <<http://www.eti-edizioni.it>> offers theosophical books for the public, both in Italian and in English.

The **English Section** (TSE) is in a transition period, as in June they became an official charity. Their 35 Lodges met regularly. In September Headquarters hosted a successful International Conference on Theosophical History, attended by members from Israel, Canada, and the USA. The summer school was on "Divine Wisdom", with Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu, Chairman of the European Federation, as the guest speaker. She gave the Blavatsky Lecture on "The Wisdom of All Ages". After a few years' absence from the European Federation, the TSE was warmly welcomed back into the fold.

The Annual Convention of the **Finnish Section** was held at Helsinki Headquarters in April. In June their summer school took place at Kreivilä on "Compassion as a Way of Life", and in Estonia the Lodges arranged a summer school on "The World in Us and Us in the World". A new Finnish translation of HPB's *The Secret Doctrine* II was published in September, jointly by the TS and Kalevala and Minerva Lodges. They have 394 members in 22 Lodges. The TS in **France** held its National Convention at the Paris Headquarters on "Theosophical Teaching and J. Krishnamurti's Message". It included two symposium talks and a public lecture on the theme by Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy. At the Paris Headquarters, the work of the 4 Lodges went steadily with 329 members. In

Africa, two out of the three Lodges became active and two study groups were formed. All of the Section's programs were published on its website and in their magazine, *Le Lotus Bleu*.

The **Dutch Section** reports a membership of 325 in 10 Lodges. In March, they held Spring Day, when they presented a new book written by Dutch members on *Theosophy, Ageless Wisdom for Our Age*; in October a silent retreat was led by Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu on "The Siva Sutra" based on the book by I. K. Taimni; and in July a "Self-transformation and the Spiritual Life" seminar was led by Vic Hao Chin, Jr. In September they had a "European afternoon", when I gave a lecture followed by discussion.

The TS in **Spain**, with 318 members in 14 Lodges and 6 study centers, held the 9th Silent Retreat guided by Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu in December, attended by 33 people. This year the in-depth study was based on "The Golden Stairs" of H. P. Blavatsky. In late April, Carmen César held a seminar on "The Emerald Tablet", attended by 25 members. In August they had a Summer School in Sant Feliu de Guixols on "Meditation" with 108 participants, and the international lecturer Pablo Sender conducted sessions that were theoretical as well as practical.

The **Icelandic Section** membership increased by 15 this year to 262. Their website is both in Icelandic and English. Their Friday evening and Saturday afternoon meetings are advertised in the newspapers as free and open to the public. They had 45 meetings with 40 to 60 persons attending. After each Friday

talk, people have an opportunity to meet the lecturer for further discussion over refreshments. Some Lodges also have members-only meetings on Sundays.

The **Russian** Presidential Agency had overall growth of activities and 11 additional members, with a total of 170. Two study centers were created in Makaryevka and Yurga, and work is going on to create a Siberian Theosophical Center. Big publishing projects are going on to develop a theosophical review, *Miscellany*, with the complete works by H. P. Blavatsky, and a theosophical library. The 8 Lodges are co-operating with common projects, and social networks are actively visited and updated with the new materials. A dialogue between Russian and Ukrainian theosophists has been established.

The **Swedish Section** has 155 members. Their magazine, *Timeless Wisdom*, was published four times in 2015. Their 6 Lodges had many lectures on various theosophical themes and also had study groups and workshops. They have arranged mini-schools at the headquarters in Stockholm twice a year, each with around 15 participants. Their summer school was on Shirley Nicholson's *Ancient Wisdom — Modern Insight*, with 19 members participating. Their TOS work has helped orphan children in Latvia and they also have a website.

The TS in **Greece** is translating *Talks on the Path of Occultism* by Annie Besant and C. W. Leadbeater. Membership dropped to 156 from 187, and Apollon and Kaviros Lodges have lapsed. The study group Prokris is inactive, but

Radamanthis and Minos Lodges in Crete are working very well.

The **Scottish** Regional Association, with 129 members in 3 Lodges, has a substantial Library with TS teachings from the earliest days. It is now being catalogued electronically to make it a resource for members and students worldwide. They continue to have international TS speakers for two weekends per year. Lodges with study groups have been working on *The Key to Theosophy* and the abridged *Secret Doctrine*, among others.

The **German Section's** summer school was their main event, with Dr Andreas de Bruin once again, and Jutta Häuser-Hartung, a specialist in yoga and the Upanishads. It was attended by 40 members, some of them from the TS in Pasadena and Point Loma. During the School they commemorated the work of former General Secretary of the TS in Germany, Elisabeth Schmidt, who died in June at 79. Work and meetings with 119 members in 7 Lodges continues on a regular basis. Their magazine, *Adyar*, is published three times a year. We are glad to learn that they are attracting younger people to theosophical work.

The TS in **Portugal** had a visit by Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy and members from Porto, Évora, and Lisbon attended his lecture on "Theosophical Teaching and Krishnamurti's Message". The Lodges mentioned above and the study groups in the Azores and Setúbal continue to work with enthusiasm and dynamism, attracting new sympathizers. The Section reports 111 members in 10 Lodges and 2 study centers.

The 11th annual Convention of the TS in **Ukraine** took place in November in Kyiv on "Theosophy in a Changing World" with a varied program. About 50 participants arrived from six other cities. It ended with a round-table meeting with all present on "Service as Spiritual Necessity" directed by Loshchinina Olga. Their membership is steady with 94 members.

The **Belgian Section** reports that a study centre has been formed named "Open Paradigma", promoting the study of theosophy-science. The Brussels headquarters welcomed lecturers Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu in November, speaking on Dharma, and Muriel Pécastaing-Boissière in April, with a lecture on Annie Besant. Some of their activities include theosophical workshops. The young are finding their way to their activities and it is hoped this trend will continue. The Section has 85 members.

The **Welsh Regional Association's** 77 members meet fortnightly, except for Conwy Lodge, which has suspended meetings. They have 10 unattached members. At Bangor Lodge Eric McGough gave 4 Lectures on the "Nature of Consciousness" from October to December. These were recorded and are available as CDs and on Eric's website. Gary Kidgell, former Organizing Secretary of Scotland, gave a full-day seminar at Colwyn Bay Lodge which was well attended, on "The Pathway to the Higher Self". In South Wales, Swansea Lodge has had an increase of 9 members in the last six months, with no members lapsing.

The TS in **Ireland** has flourished for 11 years since 2005, when Northern and

Southern Lodges came together under one umbrella as a Regional Association. The 11th All Ireland Convention was held in Dublin this year in May. Their guest speaker, Bhupendra Vora, gave a talk on their Convention theme, "The Glorious Future of Man". Membership, which has risen over the past few years, is now at 74. The Organizing Secretary keeps in touch with each member with regular newsletters and Study Notes.

The TS in **Austria** has 55 members, up from 49 last year. The 3 Lodges offer weekly lectures throughout the year. Study subjects are based on classical theosophical teachings and related topics, with lectures regularly placed on their website. Their members receive *Adyar* magazine from the German TS. In April Raphael Langerhorst, member of the Lodge in Linz, who has helped with the reconstruction of houses after the earthquake in Nepal, financed and built four houses in Trisuli near Kathmandu. In one building a Theosophical Library was set up with books ordered from the TPH Adyar. The costs were covered by the Lodge in Linz.

The **Slovenian Regional Association** stands at 53 members in 4 Lodges. All Lodges had regular weekly meetings, studying many theosophical books. Some of Krishnamurti's DVDs were watched, followed by discussion. All memorial days were celebrated.

The **Hungarian Presidential Agency** has 31 members in 3 Lodges, but work could continue in only two Lodges, one in the country and the other in Budapest. Forrás Lodge was dormant, as two mem-

bers resigned and four lapsed. They organize monthly recorded public lectures and upload them with slides onto the Agency and Lodge websites. They could publish the newly translated sixth part of *The Secret Doctrine* (vol. II, part 3) during the year and sent a set of published books (23 books and 4 booklets) to the Adyar Library in April.

The TS in **Norway**, with 19 members in 3 Lodges, has a new website with the help of members. Five new members were accepted to the Ostfold Lodge. Their Facebook group has increased to 45, and some have expressed the wish of joining the TS. They hope to elect a new Organizing Secretary in 2017.

The **West African Section** has increased its membership from 238 to 243 in 11 Lodges. Planned public lectures for the year and the annual Convention could not be held because the General Secretary was seriously indisposed and the programs for these activities had to be cancelled. The economic and political environment made things difficult but they are hopeful that things will improve with the recent election of a new government to take effect in January.

The TS in **South Africa** reports a membership of 151 in 6 Lodges. The location of Capetown, Pretoria, and Durban Lodges has been identified as a possible reason for the drop in membership from 174. These Lodges have been assessing the viability of relocating to residential suburbs, with positive financial results. The Section held their biannual Convention at the Johannesburg Lodge on "Be the change you want the world to be".

During the Convention, Jack Hartmann was re-elected as General Secretary and Tom Davis as National Lecturer.

The **East and Central African Section** composed of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia, has increased its membership from 135 to 146 in 5 Lodges. It is becoming increasingly difficult to attract new members, but they continue their efforts. Nairobi Lodge has seen keen interest from a few new members. But administration of the other four Lodges is very poor, with almost no one willing to take up administrative work. They look forward to regular international speakers visiting Lodges in Africa, as it may arouse more interest and attract new members.

The **Togo** Regional Association reports a membership of 25 in 2 Lodges meeting twice a month. They have been studying Annie Besant's *The Doctrine of the Heart and Thought Power*, and the Three Objects of the TS. Their annual Convention took place in August at the TS Center in Danyl. The French Section sends them books and their monthly *Lotus Bleu* magazine.

The **Indian Section**, with 11,323 members in 408 Lodges under 16 Federations, held its annual Convention in January at Adyar, inaugurated by me and chaired by international Vice-President Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy. Their second day of Convention consisted of short talks by Shikhar Agnihotri (UP); Geetha Jaikumar (Adyar), and S. U. Mahesh (Karnataka). Their talks were appreciated and published in the March issue of *The Indian Theosophist*. The 93rd South India

Conference was held during the Easter holidays in March at Adyar with 137 delegates. The theme was Mabel Collins' *Light on the Path*. It had 10 speakers and was inaugurated by Dr Satapathy, who also released a new book combining four classics, *The Theosophic Life and the Three Gems of Theosophy*, published by TPH Adyar. The North India Study Camp was held in Varanasi during October and I directed the study on "The Three Objects". While there, I was also invited to the Besant Theosophical School to inaugurate a new building. Other study camps were held at Gwalior, Lucknow, Bhubaneswar, and Bhowali through the year on far-ranging topics. A first-of-its-kind School of the Wisdom course was conducted in Spanish on "Beyond Physical Death" by Drs Isaac Jauli and Enrique Reig at Bhowali in September, with 35 enthusiastic participants from 8 countries.

The 125th anniversary of the Indian Section was marked by a special edition of its journal, *The Indian Theosophist*, in November, and by a two-day seminar on "Looking Ahead in the Context of the Theosophical Society" organized in Varanasi in the same month. Other seminars were also conducted in July in Delhi, and in December in Varanasi. Almost all the Federations held their annual conferences, and I delivered the inaugural address at the Bombay Federation conference in November on "The Illumined Mind". I was also the chief guest at the Kerala Federation conference in October, where the theme was "Man — the Problem and the Solution". Dr Satapathy was the chief guest at the

Utkal Federation conference in February. General Secretary Mr S. Sundaram officiated at two of the annual conferences. National lecturers B. D. Tendulkar, G. Dakshina Moorthy, S. K. Pandey, Shikhar Agnihotri, C. A. Shinde, L. Nagesh, and Avatikaben Mehta visited and gave talks at various places during the year. The 14th East Zone Conference of the TS and TOS was held at Guwahati in April, with Mr Sundaram as the chief guest. The TOS had their National camp in Varanasi in March, conducted by their director, Mr B. L. Bhattacharya, and secretary, Mr T. K. Nair. The North Zone Conference was held at Noida in August, and the South Zone Conference at Salem in September. In order to manage the properties of the Society it was decided to set up a Central Property Committee at Varanasi headquarters to expedite the decision-making process.

The **Australian Section's** National Convention was held in January and I was their guest speaker; the completion of their first professionally produced promotional video, filmed during the Convention week, is now on the Section's website; a well-attended School of Theosophy at Springbrook was held in April, with John Vorstermans on "The Mahatma Letters"; a successful open day at Blavatsky Lodge took place in May, following its move to St. Leonards in Sydney. This included the inauguration of its new premises, a celebration of White Lotus Day, and an opportunity for over 300 people to enter the Lodge. Membership declined by 45, mainly in three Lodges, and one center expanded with 21 new

members, totaling 823. However, the continuing overall decline in membership is one of the reasons for their current move, at the national level, for more active promotion of the TS.

The main events held in the **New Zealand Section** were the annual convention in Auckland in January with guest speaker Victor Peñaranda from the Philippines, followed by a 3-day "Process of Self-Transformation Seminar". In April they held a 7-day School of Theosophy with guests Pablo and Michele Sender from the USA on "The Yoga of Theosophy". Many of the videos of these events are viewable on their website <Theosophy.nz>. Their membership has declined to 633, so there is a focus on using social media much more to let people know more about the TS.

The TS in **East and South East Asia** comprises Singapore, Malaysia, Japan, and Myanmar — with an active Lodge in each. Their website has more information on the history of the Lodges and the Presidential Agency. The Singapore Lodge is 368 members strong; the Selangor Lodge in Malaysia has 89 members; Japan has Lodge Nippon in Tokyo with 48 members; and the Yangon TS in Myanmar has the Olcott Lodge with 47 members. The total number of members is 552, having a large turnover, with 53 incoming and 58 outgoing members.

The **Bangladesh** Presidential Agency added 110 new members and 4 new Lodges: Maynamati, Lalon, Proactive, and Kazi Nazrul Islam. The Comilla Lodge Secretary revived activities and organized programs jointly with Maynamati

Lodge. They distributed and sold a good number of books supplied by Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya, the Presidential Representative. The Agency has added 34 members, totaling 273 in 8 active Lodges. They have been studying *At the Feet of the Master*, and Annie Besant's *Thought Power* and *Beauties of Islam*.

The TS in the **Philippines** has had another active year, adding two new Lodges, totalling 20, with 239 members. Their Theosophical Publishing House in Manila publishes and distributes the *Theosophical Digest* quarterly public magazine through over 100 bookstores nationwide, which attracts new members. They also publish TS books and pamphlets and distribute these worldwide, including the *Theosophical Encyclopedia*; the chronological edition of *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*; *The Collected Works of H. P. Blavatsky* (in digital edition and CD-ROM version); and many others. The Section also maintains "theosophical schools", where they are evolving a model for theosophical education, catering to many underserved areas. Former General Secretary and current Golden Link College President, Vic Hao Chin, Jr, gave numerous lectures in the Philippines and abroad, including Adyar and Bhubaneswar in India, and in Hong Kong, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and Switzerland.

The new National Committee of the **Indonesian Section** analyzed their organizational problems and designed improvements such as amendment of the national rules to better regulate the work of the Section and prevent abuse of funds

and positions through transparency; development of human resources through study, networking, and venturing; training in leadership; standardization of administration and accounting, and other reforms. The need is to venture on enterprises to generate funds to implement still needed changes and programs. They request moral and material support from the international theosophical world.

The **Sri Lankan** Presidential Agency reports that their activities included five administrative committee meetings, meditation programs, and several lectures by various speakers. Their membership stands at 182 in 3 Lodges.

The Presidential Agency in **Pakistan** has no official membership, but it reports that the political climate is now good in Karachi, so they have started activities in their buildings there and in Hyderabad (Sindh). Cataloguing is also progressing in their Library. Their Montessori School is working nicely, and they have started another Institute for training Montessori teachers.

Covenant Lodge in Tel Aviv, **Israel**, with 66 members in 6 study centers, reports that they had 5 seminars totalling 248 participants, and one convention with about 220 in attendance, most of whom are sympathizers and those who studied Theosophy in the past. A study group of young participants who previously attended their courses is meeting monthly. More members are active on Facebook, disseminating Theosophy and the Lodge's activities, with about 1,500 followers. They also have a channel on YouTube presenting theosophical talks and short clips.

In addition to the Covenant Lodge, there are 6 other **Lodges attached to Adyar**, totalling 85 members, and there are 35 **Fellows at Large**.

At the **International Headquarters** the Adyar River clean-up started in April by volunteers mainly from the Chennai Trekking Club and friends; clean-up has been done each Friday morning. Also the Dhyana Yoga, Naturopathy, and Ayurveda Clinic started in August in part of the Bhojanasala on a part-time basis.

The **Archives and Museum** has continued scanning documents, especially those of H. P. Blavatsky. The availability of many volunteers, mainly from abroad, has been helpful in this regard. A new catalogue is being prepared. Audio and video tapes are also being digitized. Several of them were publicly viewed, including talks by J. Krishnamurti and C. Jinarājadāsa, and an interview with Radha Burnier.

The work of digitization of palm-leaf and other manuscripts initiated last year by the **Adyar Library and Research Centre** was continued in earnest, with the help of new equipment such as lights, camera, scanners, storage devices and so on, obtained through purchases and donations. They started a research affiliation with the American Institute of Indian Studies. Conservation of old and rare books and manuscripts continued to be done.

The **School of the Wisdom**, for the first time, had a session in Spanish, a one-week programme conducted in September at the Himalayan Study Centre in Bhowali, India, on "Beyond Physical

Death", directed by Drs Isaac Jauli and Enrique Reig. This was in addition to the sessions at Adyar by Dr Pablo Sender on "The Yoga of Theosophy", Prof. R. C. Tampi on "Life's Deeper Aspects", Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr on "Self-Transformation and the Spiritual Life", and Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu on "Glimpses into Chinese Philosophies in the Light of Theosophy", each lasting two weeks.

The **Theosophical Publishing House** brought out 28 books (1 new and 27 reprints) during the year. The Editorial Office brought out a special issue of *The Theosophist* on Joy Mills in December, commemorating the first anniversary of her passing.

The **Olcott Education Society** suffered a great loss when Mrs Lakshmi Suryanarayanan, who joined the Olcott Memorial School as its headmistress in 1999, and later became the School's Director, passed away in April 2016. Her contributions have been invaluable. Also, the HPB Hostel is being renovated, and it has a new warden on board, Mr P. Perchamy.

The renovation of the **Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary** has started. The new veterinary surgeon Dr R. M. Kannambal, who took charge in June is an expert in animal birth control procedures. There were about 2,800 cases attended during the year.

The **Besant Scout Camping Centre** had thirteen institutions and scout groups utilizing its services. Around 1,400 children benefitted through camping activities in line with theosophical values.

The **Theosophical Order of Service**

(TOS) continued its work with Mrs Nancy Secrest as its international Secretary. Carolyn and Geoffrey Harrod who were producing the quarterly e-newsletter — the latter was also the webmaster of the TOS website — retired this year, and Ms Rozi Ulics is the new webmaster. Activity on the Facebook Page started last year, has been growing. Efforts in raising a corpus fund for the Olcott Memorial School has begun. TOS Italy was involved in helping the Syrian refugees with material aid, and even constructed a small paediatrics clinic. A notable event was the First National Conference on Theosophical Education in Bhubaneswar, India, last September, for implementing a theosophical education model for schools linked to the TS and TOS, along the lines of similar work done in the Philippines.

As to **travels by international Headquarters officers**, last January I went to Australia to speak at their National Convention and a public meeting; I spoke in Brazil at a Lodge and public meetings, and attended the first International Young Theosophists Conference, both in Brasilia. I also spoke at Lodges in Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo and to the public, and conducted a three-day workshop at the Raja Center near Sao Paulo. In Cholula, Mexico, I gave talks at an Inter-American Federation meeting and at a public meeting. In Argentina, I spoke at the Lodge in Buenos Aires and gave a public talk, as well as conducted a workshop in the San Rafael Center. I also presided over and spoke at the TS in America National Convention and at public meet-

ings, ending with the centenary of the Detroit Lodge. On to Europe, I held a private meeting with the National President of the TS in Italy, and spoke at three meetings in the Netherlands. After returning to India, I spoke at the Kerala Federation annual conference in Alleppey and at the 125th anniversary of their Lodge in Kochi. Later I spoke in New Zealand at the Indo-Pacific Federation gathering and at Lodge and public meetings in three other cities. Finally, I went to Delhi at the invitation of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations to speak on "The TS: India's Gift to the World".

The **international Vice-President** went on a lecture tour of Europe in June, visiting Perugia, Vicenza, and Trieste in Italy; Ljubljana and Kranjska Gora in Slovenia; Barcelona and Madrid in Spain; and Lisbon, Evora, and Porto in Portugal. In Paris, he spoke at the French Section's Headquarters for their National Confer-

ence, and gave a public lecture. He also travelled in India throughout the year to Tanjore, Cuttack, Bhubaneswar, Bangalore, New Delhi, and Bhowali, to speak in different capacities.

In March the **International Secretary** gave a talk on "Brotherhood" for the Theosophical Seminar of sister-organizations in Helsinki, Finland. She attended the European Federation meeting in Barcelona in April, and the annual meetings and Europe Day at Naarden in September. In October she was invited by the Karnataka Federation to meet theosophists on their premises in Bangalore, and on to Huliyaar to give the inauguration address at the Golden Jubilee of their Lodge.

This ends my report and I offer my warm good wishes to everyone present and also to every one of our members worldwide.

TIM BOYD

**THE TREASURER'S REPORT
AND
ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 2016**

TREASURER'S REPORT 2015-2016

The salient features of the Income and Expenditure for the financial year ended 31 March 2015 are briefly reported hereunder:

1. INCOME

The details of the income for the year ended 31st March 2016 as compared to the previous year 2014-15 are as follows:

	Financial Year ended on	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
a) Gross interest received from the investment	26,383,835	25,040,642
b) Fees and dues from Sections	2,969,070	2,254,733
c) Donations - General	623,320	392,481
d) Licence Fees	200,000	60,000
e) The Theosophical Publishing House	<u>775,928</u>	<u>—</u>
Total	30,952,153	27,747,856
Less: Interest transferred to earmarked funds	<u>12,718,691</u>	<u>9,508,416</u>
Total	<u>18,233,462</u>	<u>18,239,440</u>

The gross income for the year has gone up by about Rupees 32 lakhs compared to previous year. The fees and dues from Sections and general donations have also gone up by 31.60% and 58.80% respectively. The fall in the interest rates had some bearing on the interest income of the year; however the same had no effect on our income from interest by virtue of substantial funds received from the two Trusts of Dr Radha Burnier during the year. In the current year, the income from interest on investments is likely to come down substantially in view of the interest rates having been reduced from 8.5% to around 7.5%. Sufficient care should be taken to limit the expenditure in the current year or else we may have to face cash crunch, unless of course, substantial donations are received.

2. EXPENDITURE

General: In response to the claim that the employees are paid too low a salary, the President and the Executive Committee approved to increase the salaries keeping in view the minimum wages announced by the state government of Tamilnadu with effect from 1st January, 2015, resulting in the increase of gross salary bill of Rs. 12.50 lakhs per month. This increase in salary affected the working results of every department during the year.

The summary of the expenditure of the Society under different heads after taking credit for the interest appropriated from respective funds is as under:

	Financial Year ended on	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
a) Departments	9,014,595	10,978,313
b) Charitable Work	595,581	571,740
c) Propagation of Theosophy	3,369,888	1,074,044
d) International offices	1,918,829	1,390,768
e) Establishment	5,354,363	4,274,203
f) Other expenses	<u>3,304,867</u>	<u>4,488,920</u>
Total	<u>23,558,123</u>	<u>22,777,988</u>

The gross functional results of each Department are explained hereunder:

(a) Departments

Departments	Financial Year ended on	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
Bhojanasala and		
Leadbeater Chambers	1,207,189	1,352,968
Garden	1,844,743	2,209,065
Maintenance	<u>6,777,109</u>	<u>7,779,280</u>
	<u>9,829,041</u>	<u>11,341,313</u>

(a) (i) Bhojanasala and Leadbeater Chambers:

During the year, the kitchen attached to Bhojanasala was merged with that of Leadbeater Chambers as a measure of cost reduction, with effect from 1st January 2016.

There is an increase in expenditure of Rs. 217,044 from Rs. 2,891,487 of last year to Rs. 3,108,531 of current year partly due to increase in salary bill, while the income has gone up to Rs. 1,901,032 this year from Rs. 1,538,519, resulting in marginal fall in net deficit to Rs. 1,207,499 compared to last year's Rs. 1,352,968.

(a) (ii) Garden:

The cultivation has resulted in a decrease of gross profit to Rs. 352,463 for the year compared to Rs. 503,654 of previous year because of fall in yield generally from all crops.

However, due to lower maintenance cost to the extent of Rs. 445,170 the net deficit has also fallen by Rs. 364,322 to Rs. 1,844,743 this financial year, compared to last year.

(a) (iii) Maintenance:

The net expenditure of the Department has come down to Rs. 8,501,149 for the year from Rs. 9,412,425 of last year, whereas the income has increased marginally to Rs. 1,724,040 from Rs. 1,633,145 of last year. The huge fall of Rs. 911,276 in expenditure this year has resulted in reduction of net deficit by Rs. 1,002,171. There are stocks valued

at Rs. 4.90 lakhs as on 31.03.2016, compared to Rs. 7.56 Lakhs on 31.03.2015. There is scope for better inventory management in a scientific manner.

(b) Charitable Work

The expenditure under different categories during the year compared to the previous year are as under:

	Financial Year ended on	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
Animal welfare	732,451	721,584
B. M. Animal Dispensary	836,936	906,463
Free dispensary & medical aid	329,281	300,397
Theosophical Order of Service	—	200,000
Education	1,824,803	45,000
Welfare grants	384,950	21,243
School fees and books	210,500	46,500
Social welfare work	38,377	25,967
Others	11,600	3,600
Cyclone relief	<u>219,000</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>4,587,898</u>	<u>2,270,754</u>

I am happy to report that the Society has fulfilled all its obligations to the trusts, Annie Besant Charitable Trust and N. Sriram Charitable Trust in the first year of receipt of the funds, with increased services in the field of education.

The total expenditure on charitable activities during this year 2015–16 was more than double that of last year with increase under all heads of activities.

(c) Propagation of Theosophy

The expenditure on propagation of Theosophy for the year under different heads was as under:

	Financial Year ended	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
a) Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,711,782	1,360,320
b) The Theosophical Publishing House	—	187,646
c) <i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	442,632	391,227
d) Vasanta Press	-658,648	440,536
e) School of the Wisdom	51,840	50,686
f) Book Gifts	119,730	50,272
g) Convention & Seminars	1,169,074	1,486,743
h) Archives & Museum	582,666	50,724

i) Others	3,238	3,911
j) Grant to Indian Section	<u>3,000,000</u>	<u>—</u>
	<u>6,422,314</u>	<u>4,022,065</u>

(c) (a) The following figures of Adyar Library and Research Centre are taken from the published accounts of the Centre:

	Financial Year ended	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
Books Published:		
Opening Stock	1,712,294	1,565,026
Add Publishing Exps	<u>343,302</u>	<u>455,002</u>
TOTAL A	<u>2,055,596</u>	<u>2,020,028</u>
Sales	207,619	260,317
Closing Stock	<u>1,751,241</u>	<u>1,712,294</u>
TOTAL B	<u>1,958,860</u>	<u>1,972,611</u>
Loss (A – B)	<u>-96,736</u>	<u>-47,417</u>

There was a net deficit of Rs. 1,711,782 after taking into account all the administrative costs for this year 2015–16 compared to the deficit of Rs. 1,360,320 for the previous year, 2014–15.

(c) (b) The Theosophical Publishing House:

Financial year 2015–16 has seen the House earning a profit of Rs. 775,928 mainly due to increase in its turnover from Rs. 2,874,947 last year to Rs. 4,153,445 for the current year thereby increasing its gross earning by Rs. 2,341,304 this year from Rs. 1,335,536 for the last year and thus earned a net surplus of Rs. 775,928.

(c) (c) The Theosophist and Adyar Newsletter:

There is marginal increase in deficit of Rs. 0.50 lakhs due to fall in subscription, expenditure remaining almost same. There is need for increase in the number of subscribers for both journals.

(c) (d) Vasanta Press:

Production account generated a surplus of Rs. 1.95 lakhs compared to Rs. 0.80 lakhs deficit last year. A one-time sale of machinery scrap to the extent of Rs. 9.10 lakhs resulted in a profit of Rs. 6.58 lakhs compared to the loss of Rs. 4.40 lakhs last year. But for the sale of machinery scrap, the press would have sustained a loss of Rs. 2.52 lakhs.

(c) (e) Convention & Seminars:

A sum of Rs. 1,169,074 has been incurred for the Convention this year compared to Rs. 1,486,743 of last year which is less by Rs. 317,669. However, the whole expenditure was met from the income from the relative Endowment Fund.

3. INTERNATIONAL OFFICES

The expenses of International offices were as follows:

	Financial Year ended	
	31.03.2016	31.03.2015
	Rs.	Rs.
President & Vice President	405,599	139,663
Treasury	1,155,887	836,991
Secretary	<u>492,744</u>	<u>414,114</u>
	<u>2,054,230</u>	<u>1,390,768</u>

The above figures represent the total departmental expenditure, the increase in the expenditure is partly due to hike in salary bills.

4. ESTABLISHMENT

a) The total expenditure on the establishment of other departments including Security, Housekeeping and Sanitation for the year was Rs. 5,554,363 compared to that of previous year of Rs. 4,655,203. The increase was due to general inflationary trend and stationery and postage, besides the substantial increase by 35% of salaries of its employees.

b) Negotiations have begun for re-erection of the tensile roof of Adyar Theatre after its collapse, which will be safe and withstand all weather conditions. But obtaining necessary technical advice for its reconstruction will take time and some more time for the construction, as it can only be taken up after the monsoon. To meet the requirements of the convention, it is decided in principle to have a temporary construction as we had in previous years.

5. NET DEFICIT

The net expenditure of Rs. 23,558,123 incurred after appropriation of income from relevant Endowment Funds and the income of Rs. 18,233,462 has resulted in a net deficit of Rs. 5,324,661 for the year compared to that of Rs. 4,538,548/- for 2014-15.

6. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

During the year an expenditure of Rs. 3,893,739 was incurred on acquisition cum improvement of assets, which include buildings, plant and machinery and electrical & telephone installations compared to such expenditure on assets of Rs. 2,359,111 during the previous year.

Interest-free advance of Rupees Five Hundred Thousand paid to the Indian Section during the year was repaid in full as per schedule.

7. FUNDS & INVESTMENTS

a) The investments of the Society by the end of the year amount to Rs. 302,831,706 an increase of Rs. 1,416,212 over the previous year's investment.

b) The President of New Zealand Section has contributed a sum of Rs. 8,27,000 from the Section towards the cost of furnishings for Leadbeater Chambers which is appreciated.

8.ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

I heartily express my gratitude to the Great Ones.

On behalf of the Society, I take this opportunity to express my sincere thanks for the continued support of the President, members of the Executive Committee, and General Council, and all the members throughout the world.

Chennai
Date: 25-10-2016

K. Narasimha Rao
Honorary Treasurer

FEES AND DUES RECEIVED

From 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016 (in Rupees)

	Name of Section etc.	2014-2015	2015-2016
The Theosophical Society in:	Africa, East and Central	930	172088
	Africa, South	—	—
	Africa, Central	—	—
	Africa, West	—	—
	America Central, El Salvador	—	4736
	Argentina and Paraguay	163073	77867
	Asia, East and South-East:		
	— Japan	16915	14619
	— Malaysia	—	—
	— Singapore	—	—
	Australia	195943	244449
	Austria	—	—
	Bangladesh	—	1622
	Belgium	41951	73011
	Bolivia	62659	35264
	Brazil	—	—
	Canada	24613	—
	Costa Rica	—	66593
	Chile	—	76527
	Colombia	—	—
	Cuba	—	45539
	Dominican Republic	13625	13621
	England	—	446926
	Finland	121117	110816
	France	77052	100358
	Germany	98966	53348
	Greece	—	—
	Hungary	53933	—
	Iceland	—	—
	India	142516	141437
	Indonesia	44633	13514
	Indonesia, Lodge Sofia	4800	—

Italy	226374	172831
Ireland	—	11643
Ivory Coast	—	—
Mexico	34270	32168
Netherlands, The	—	—
New Zealand	—	24072
Norway	—	—
Pakistan	—	—
Peru	—	10604
Philippines, The	—	—
Portugal	—	—
Puerto Rico	17652	17606
Russia	16737	8886
Scotland	—	—
Slovenia	12100	13299
Spain	164957	97649
Sri Lanka	—	—
Sweden	—	—
Switzerland	28260	29669
Togo	—	—
Ukraine	6881	4740
Uruguay	43743	26625
USA	607299	632470
Venezuela	—	39850
Wales	11453	12142

Lodges attached to Adyar:

Lotus Lodge (Croatia)	9792	8031
EL Sol (Equador)	—	—
Arc en Ciel and Ananda Lodges (France)	—	—
Covenant Lodge (Israel)	—	56549
Blavatsky Lodge (Qatar)	5000	—
Orlando Lodge (USA)	—	8988
Fellows-at-large	7491	68913
	<u>2254735</u>	<u>2969070</u>

**THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
BALANCE SHEET AS**

As at 31-3-2015	LIABILITIES	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2016	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
48,265,279	General Fund: Balance as per last Balance Sheet <i>Add:</i> Transferred from OES		43,726,731 250,234	
4,538,548	<i>Less:</i> Deficit for the year		43,976,965 5,324,661	
43,726,731				38,652,304
192,012,071	Endowment Funds	7		192,051,830
80,947,918	Other Funds	8		93,507,197
14,532,946	Current Liabilities and Provisions	9		15,814,249
1,243,000	Legacy Deposits			1,243,000
332,462,666	TOTAL			341,268,580

This is the Balance Sheet referred to in our report.

For SRIHARI & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

CHENNAI
16.09.2016

E. S. NEELAKANTAN
Partner

As at 31-3-2015	ASSETS	Schedule No.	As at 31-3-2016	
Rs.			Rs.	Rs.
14,325,274	Fixed Assets	1		16,916,993
301,415,494	Investments: (At cost) In Scheduled Banks and Financial Institutions	2		302,831,706
	Current Assets, Loans and Advances:			
8,796,121	Stocks	3	10,340,609	
319,902	Sundry Debtors	4	714,694	
1,348,031	Loans and Advances	5	5,057,626	
6,257,844	Cash and Bank Balances	6	5,406,952	
16,721,898				21,519,881
332,462,666	TOTAL			341,268,580

Schedule Numbers 1 to 9 and Notes on Accounts
form part of the Balance Sheet.

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K.NARASIMHA RAO
Hon. Treasurer

**THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY,
INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**

Year ended 31-3-2015	EXPENDITURE	Schedule No.	Year ended 31-3-2016
Rs.			Rs.
10,978,313	Departments	(A)	9,014,595
571,740	Charitable Work	(B)	595,581
1,074,044	Propagation of Theosophy	(C)	3,369,888
1,390,768	International Offices	(D)	1,918,829
4,274,203	Establishment	(E)	5,354,363
4,488,920	Other Expenses	(F)	3,304,867
22,777,988	TOTAL		23,558,123

For SRIHARI & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

CHENNAI
16.09.2016

E. S. NEELAKANTAN
Partner

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2016

Year ended 31-3-2015	INCOME	Year ended 31-3-2016	
Rs.		Rs.	Rs.
	Propagation of Theosophy:		
	Theosophical Publishing House		775,928
274,017	General Donations		338,672
25,040,642	Interest Received	26,383,835	
9,508,416	Less : Transferred to Various Funds	12,718,691	
15,532,226			13,665,144
2,254,733	Fees and Dues		2,969,070
60,000	License Fees		200,000
118,464	Adyar Day Donations		284,648
4,538,548	Deficit		5,324,661
22,777,988	TOTAL		23,558,123

Schedules A to F and Notes on Accounts form part of the Income & Expenditure

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

K. NARASIMHA RAO
Hon. Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY, ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020
SCHEDULES FORMING PART OF INCOME & EXPENDITURE A/C: 2015-2016

HEAD OF ACCOUNT	EXPENDITURE	FUNDS TRANSFERRED	BALANCE
Departments (Schedule A)			
Bhojanasala & LBC	1,207,189	-	1,207,189
Garden	1,844,743	369,000	1,475,743
Maintenance	6,777,109	445,446	6,331,663
	9,829,041	814,446	9,014,595
Charitable Work (Schedule B)			
Animal Welfare	732,451	732,451	-
Education	1,824,803	1,824,803	-
Welfare Grants	384,950	335,150	49,800
Free Dispensary and Medical Aid	329,281	-	329,281
School Fees and Books	210,500	-	210,500
Social Welfare Work	38,377	38,377	-
BMAD	836,936	836,936	-
Others	11,600	5,600	6,000
Cyclone Relief	219,000	219,000	-
	4,587,898	3,992,317	595,581
Propogation of Theosophy (Schedule C)			
Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,711,782	1,711,782	-
<i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	442,632	-	442,632
Archives and Museum	582,666	-	582,666
Theosophy Science Centre	3,238	-	3,238
Vasanta Press	(658,648)	-	(658,648)
Grant to Indian Section	3,000,000	-	3,000,000
School of the Wisdom	51,840	51,840	-
Book Gift	119,730	119,730	-
Convention & Seminars	1,169,074	1,169,074	-
	6,422,314	3,052,426	3,369,888
International Offices (Schedule D)			
President and Vice-President	405,599	135,401	270,198
Treasurer	1,155,887	-	1,155,887
Secretary	492,744	-	492,744
	2,054,230	135,401	1,918,829
Establishment (Schedule E)			
Headquarters	492,926	-	492,926
General Manager's Office	299,125	-	299,125
Housekeeping	785,752	-	785,752
Sanitation	723,573	-	723,573
Security	3,252,987	200,000	3,052,987
	5,554,363	200,000	5,354,363
Other Expenses (Schedule F)			
Insurance	10,032	-	10,032
Legal and Court Expenses	90,000	-	90,000
Audit Fees	130,140	-	130,140
Rates and Taxes	92,827	-	92,827
Bank Charges	4,844	-	4,844
Depreciation	735,765	-	735,765
Motor Car Expenses	75,921	-	75,921
Miscellaneous	137,181	-	137,181
Provision for Gratuity	28,157	-	28,157
Provision for Labour	2,000,000	-	2,000,000
	3,304,867	-	3,304,867
Grand Total (Rs.)	31,752,713	8,194,590	23,558,123

For **SRIHARI & CO.,**
Chartered Accountants

For and on behalf of the Executive Committee of
THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY

CHENNAI
16.09.2016

E. S. NEELAKANTAN
Partner

K. NARASIMHA RAO
Hon.Treasurer

THE THEOSOPHICAL SOCIETY
BUDGET FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31-3-2018

(Rupees in Thousands)

EXPENDITURE					INCOME				
	Budget 15-16	Actuals 15-16	Budget 16-17	Budget 17-18		Budget 15-16	Actuals 15-16	Budget 16-17	Budget 17-18
Departments (Net Expenditure)					Propagation of Theosophy				
Bhojanasala & Leadbeater Chambers	1,700	1,207	2,413	2,000	Theosophical Publishing House	-	776	-	460
Garden	2,500	1,845	2,755	2,500	General Donations	2,600	339	500	6,500
Maintenance	21,000	6,777	12,284	20,000	Interest (Net)	15,000	13,665	15,000	10,000
Utilization from Other Funds	-3,000	-814	-3,000	-3,000	Membership Fees and Dues	3,000	2,969	3,000	3,000
Charitable Work					Licence Fees	-	200	-	1,200
Animal Welfare	3,000	1,569	2,500	3,000	Miscellaneous Receipts	10	-	10	10
Education	2,500	1,825	3,500	3,500	Adyar Day Donations	-	285	200	200
Welfare Grants	200	385	200	200					
Free Dispensary & Medical Aid	350	329	350	500	Deficit	18,464	5,324	12,716	14,855
School Fees and Books	200	211	250	300					
Social Welfare Work	150	38	150	150					
HPB Hostel	150		150	150					
Cyclone Relief		249	-	-					
Others	4	12	6	10					
Utilization from Other Funds	-5,800	-3,992	-6,300	-6,800					
Propagation of Theosophy									
Adyar Library and Research Centre	1,800	1,712	1,696	2,300					
Theosophical Publishing House	500		158						
<i>The Theosophist</i> and <i>Adyar Newsletter</i>	500	443	425	500					
Wake Up India			-	200					
Vasanta Press	400	-659	550	500					
Grant to Indian Section		3,000	-						
Information and Public Relations	10		150						
Archives and Museum	700	582	700	700					
Theosophy Science Centre	300	3	300	100					
School of the Wisdom	200	52	200	200					
Book Gift	100	120	200	200					
Convention & Seminars	1,500	1,169	1,500	2,000					
IT			300	300					
Utilization from Other Funds	-2,650	-3,053	-3,346	-4,700					
International Offices									
President and Vice-President	250	405	250	500					
Treasurer	1,000	1,156	1,500	1,500					
Secretary	500	493	600	600					
Utilization from Other Funds		-135	-						
Establishment									
Headquarters	300	493	500	500					
General Manager's Office	250	299	300	300					
Housekeeping	1,025	786	900	1,000					
Sanitation	700	723	700	900					
Security	4,000	3,253	4,000	4,500					
Utilization from Other Funds		-200	-400	-70					
Other Expenses									
Insurance Premiums	25	10	25	25					
Legal Expenses	200	90	300	200					
Audit Fees	150	130	150	150					
Rates and Taxes	500	93	600	100					
Bank Charges	10	5	10	10					
Depreciation	600	736	600	800					
Motor Car Maintenance	100	76	150	150					
Miscellaneous	150	137	150	150					
Provision for Gratuity	1,000	28	1,000	100					
Provision for Labour	2,000	2,000	2,000						
	39,074	23,558	31,426	36,225		39,074	23,558	31,426	36,225

HEADQUARTERS

ADYAR, CHENNAI 600 020

INDIA

OFFICERS AND HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS FOR 2016

Executive Committee:

1.	Mr Tim Boyd	<i>President</i>
2.	Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy	<i>Vice-President</i>
3.	Ms Marja Artamaa	<i>Secretary</i>
4.	Mr K. Narasimha Rao	<i>Treasurer</i>
5.	Mr S. Sundaram	<i>General Council Member</i>
6.	Prof. R. C. Tampi	<i>General Council Member</i>
7.	Mr S. Harihara Raghavan	<i>Member</i>
8.	Dr M. V. Rengarajan	<i>Member</i>
9.	Prof. C. A. Shinde	<i>Member</i>
10.	Mr A. L. Somayaji	<i>Member</i>

General Manager

Mr S. Harihara Raghavan

Adyar Library

Librarian
Director (Sanskrit Studies)

Prof. C. A. Shinde

Editorial

Head

Dr T. Narayankutty

Garden

Superintendent

Mrs Idarmis Rodriguez

Housekeeping

Superintendent

Mr S. A. Sanghram

Information

Mrs Vijaya Ravindran (from 15 Jan 2016)

Leadbeater Chambers and Bhojanasala

Superintendent

Mrs Veena Ramachandran

Maintenance

Hon. Superintendent

Mr R. Somanathan (from 1 Feb 2016)

Medical Service

Doctors

Dr S. D. Inbaraj & Dr R. Revathy

Museum and Archives

Officer in Charge

Mrs Kusum Satapathy

Sanitation

Superintendent

Mrs Vijaya Ravindran (from 15 June 2016)

School of the Wisdom

Director

Prof. R. C. Tampi

Security

Superintendent

Mr J. Suresh

Theosophical Publishing House

Manager

Mr S. M. Umakanth Rao

Vasanta Press

Manager

Mr V. Gopalan

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Chairman

Mr Tim Boyd

Secretary

Ms Sripriya Raghavan

Treasurer

Mr T. S. Jambunathan

Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School

Headmistress

Mrs R. Lalita

Director

Dr P. Thirumalai (from 10 May 2016)

Social Welfare Centre

Manager

Mrs R. Mythili

Vocational Training Centre

Director

Mrs Lakshmi Narasimhan

Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary

Doctor

Dr P. Ramachandran (until 30 April 2016)

Dr R. M. Kannambal (from 1 June 2016)

HPB Hostel

Warden

Mr P. Perchamy (from 1 December 2016)

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS 2016

National Societies and Sections		26	Section/Area		Number of			
Regional Associations		13			Lodges Centres Members			
Presidential Agencies		13	28. Ireland		2	2	74	R
Lodges Attached to Adyar		7	29. Italy		29	20	934	S
Total Lodges		898	30. Ivory Coast		3	-	22	R
Total Centres		167	31. Mexico		12	5	148	S
Total Membership 2015		25,920	32. Netherlands		10	6	325	S
Total Membership 2016		25,533	33. New Zealand		13	4	633	S
			34. Norway		3	-	19	R
Section/Area			35. Pakistan		NA	NA	NA	(A)
			36. Peru		2	-	33	A
			37. Philippines		20	10	239	S
			38. Portugal		10	2	111	S
			39. Puerto Rico		3	-	39	A
			40. Russia		8	2	170	A
			41. Scotland		3	-	129	R
			42. Slovenia		4	-	53	R
			43. Spain		14	6	318	S
			44. Sri Lanka		3	-	182	A
			45. Sweden		6	1	158	S
			46. Switzerland		3	-	23	A
			47. Togo		2	-	25	R
			48. Ukraine		5	3	94	R
			49. USA		38	47	3,292	S
			50. Uruguay		5	-	56	R
			51. Venezuela		2	-	16	A
			52. Wales		4	1	77	R
			Total		891	163	25,347	
			Lodges/Members Attached to Adyar		Lodges Centres Members			
			1. France, Arc de Ciel and Ananda		2	1	30	L
			2. Ecuador, El Sol		1	-	12	L
			3. Israel, Covenant		1	3	66	L
			4. Croatia, Lotus		1	-	20	L
			5. USA, Orlando		1	-	14	L
			6. Qatar, Blavatsky		1	-	9	L
			7. Fellows-at-Large		-	-	35	
			Grand Total		898	167	25,533	

S= Section, R= Regional Association, A=Presidential Agency, L= Lodge attached to Adyar

Ivory Coast, Sri Lanka and Ecuador have figures of previous year in the absence of fresh data

THE THEOSOPHICAL PUBLISHING HOUSE

In spite of more and more people buying and reading books online, we continue to get good orders, a large chunk from India, and world over. Publications of the Theosophical Publishing House (TPH) continued to attract TS members and the general public. The sales for the current year (April 2015 to March 2016) was 3.45 million rupees, an increase of 1.32 million compared to the previous year's sales of 2.13 million rupees.

The surplus for the year was Rs. 775 thousand compared to the deficit of Rs. 187 thousand in the last year. This was mainly because of the increase in sales.

The deficit on account of journals publication this year was Rs. 442 thousand compared to the previous year's deficit of Rs. 391 thousand. The increase in deficit was on account of an all-round increase in printing charges and postage.

The subscription numbers continued to be the same as in last year though there was variation in the amounts received.

For the period from October 2015 to September 2016, **one** new release and **twenty-seven** reprints were brought out.

Mr S. M. Umakanth Rao
Manager

THE ADYAR LIBRARY AND RESEARCH CENTRE

Col. H. S. Olcott established the Adyar Library and Research Centre (ALRC) in 1886 with the main aim of reviving the study of Oriental literature, philosophy, and religion, and encouraging genuine scholars in Indian studies. The Centre is functioning under the guidance of the International President of the Theosophical Society Mr Tim Boyd.

The present editorial board includes the following eminent persons for our journal *Brahmavidyā*:

1. Mr Tim Boyd — Chairman
2. Dr Narayanan Kutty
3. Prof. Christian Lindtner
4. Mr N. Kazanas
5. Dr K. N. Neelakantan
6. Mr Subhash Kak
7. Dr Ramaratnam
8. Dr G. Gangadharan Nair
9. Dr Mani Dravid

Ms T. M. Ramani, Ms Saswati Mukerji and Swami Chitgananda Puri are associated with the research and publications of the Centre and Mrs S. Jayanthi helps in many ways.

Prof. C. A. Shinde, Swami Chitgananda Puri, Ms T. M. Ramani, Mr K. Jaikumar and Mrs S. Jayanthi have taken up the work of automation, scanning and digitization of manuscripts along with the staff who are now trained by the Swami to use the new scanner for scanning of paper manuscripts and books, palmleaf photography and digitization. This year we got donation of books from various sources worth Rs. 60,000 which were accessed, catalogued and shelved properly.

Affiliation with Other University

Research scholar from the American Institute of Indian Studies Ms Janet M. has been affiliated to the Adyar Library

and Research Centre and her research title is "Inside and Outside the Texts : Daddin's 7th Century Prose Narratives". American Institute of Indian Studies took full financial responsibility.

Exhibition & Service Rendered

Besides our display room exhibition this year a special exhibition of photographs on the flora & fauna of Adyar by Prof. A. Chandrasekaran was arranged for the visitors. The exhibition is kept open throughout the week including Sundays, except Mondays and other public holidays, from 9:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. 1500 persons visited the display and reading rooms and more than 2000 visited the photo exhibition including many school students of Chennai.

During the year under report, 28067 frames of photocopies were taken, including transcripts and rare books. The Library was used by 1846 readers and 720 borrowers who consulted 7564 books, and borrowed 1096 books including 42 rare books and 68 manuscripts. Manuscripts issued : TR — 101, PM — 83, PL — 192, VB — 19, Rare Books — 22, VR — 19.

A one-day seminar on "The Challenges of Interreligious Learning Specifically Hindu-Christian in the 21st century" by Professor Francis X. Clooney, SJ will be held on 10 January 2017.

Works Ready for the Press

1. *Advaitasiddhipatram* by Dr S. Bhuvanesvari
2. *Jñānamkuṣam* by Dr Radha Raghunathan
3. *Vivekamukurah* by Mrs Padma

Padmanabhan

4. *Vākyaṛthamañjari* by Dr Saswati Mukherjee

Works in Progress

1. *Bhāvajñānaprakāśana* of Śivarama Śastri with translation by Dr S. Bhuvanesvari
2. *Śaṣṭradīpika* of Parthasarathi Miśra with comm. Mayūkhāvali by Swami Chitganananda
3. *Naiskarnysiddhi-Vivaranam* named Vidyāsurabhi of Jñānamṛtayati by Swami Chitganananda
4. *Tattvaśuddhi* notes and English transcription by Dr Saswati Mukherjee
5. *Sūtrārthabodhinī* by Ms T. M. Ramani
6. *Yājñikyupaniṣad-Vivaraṇam* by Ms T. M. Ramani
7. *Aṣṭaśloki* with different commentaries by Dr Radha Raghunathan
8. *Nānārthaśabdaratnam* with translation by Dr Uma Maheswari
9. *Apastama Sulba Sutras* publication of the commentary of Sundararajan, a book on Geometry in comparison with modern Geometrical calculations by Smt. Lakshmi, S. (MCA, MA (Skt).

List for Reprints

1. *Samgītaratnākara* Trans. (ALS 51),
2. *Jīvanmuktiviveka* (ALGS 6),
3. *Rasārṇavasudhākara* (ALS 110),
4. *Stotra Samucchaya* 2 vol. (ALS 99)
5. *Goladīpikā* (ALPS 32)

Digitization and Automation

This year the Library got the amount of Rs. 185000 sanctioned by EC to purchase camera, RPS copy stand, 4 TB backup, lights with stands, etc., and for the purchase of two scanners Rs. 98000 donation

was received from Dabur. Prof. Rama Subramanyam donated a camera of Rs. 46000 which is being used for book and palm leaf manuscript digitization work in the Library. Swami has trained many of our workers in operating computer and scanners in addition to his editing work and Mr Diego Fernandes from Argentina helps in photocopying & scanning work.

Mrs S. Jayanthi is looking after automation besides her routine work, reports, salary sheet, service books and all other general correspondence both for Library section and Research section, and in addition guiding and training Ms Sangita, Ms Divya, and Mrs Hemalatha. The Library automation work has started now with Books on Hinduism (H 100) and more than 10000 books have been completed. The rest of the books are in process. The old and damaged books are taken for scanning & binding. Some books are preserved after fumigation process in the AC room. The work is a continuous process which will continue for a few more years.

Mrs Arunthathi is looking after digitization work with the help of Ms Kantimathi, Mrs Premalatha, Mrs Komala and Mrs Hemalatha besides other library work of binding the books. Other general staff Mr Narayanaswami, Mr Sharma and Mr Thyagarajan help in counter work, xerox, weekly remittance, postage, packing & numbering, card preparing etc. Mrs Selvi & Mrs Rani are attendants looking after cleaning and watering the garden.

This year, from 1 October 2015 to 24 September 2016, income from xerox is

Rs. 152280 and income from scanning and photography of manuscripts is Rs. 134740 as rates for scanned paper manuscripts, and digital palm-leaf manuscripts are increased to Rs. 10 per side.

Acquisition and Cataloguing

During the year under report, 19 books were purchased and 968 books were accessed, 1500 books were catalogued and added to the Library collection.

We received 949 books from various sources as gifts. Most of these were from the President's Office, the TPH, the Secretary's Office, TPH Wheaton, and the Rashtriya Sanskrit Samsthan.

Mrs Malathi Pandurang does cataloguing. Mrs S. Jayanthi, Mrs Geeta Jayaraman and Mrs Sushma help in accessing and cataloguing, and cancelling books in the Library.

V. Conservation and Preservation

725 hard cover books were repaired, 7000 were bound, 500 photocopied and 750 wrapper-pasted. 520 soft-cover books were repaired besides fumigation.

VI. Books and Manuscripts Catalogue Section

3000 books were catalogued and entered and 2000 books were checked. 41 books and 263 manuscripts were scanned. 21654 palm-leaf scans, 12698 paper-manuscript scans and TR 4732 were completed and 33946 are in progress. Of a total of about 40000, 574 manuscripts were numbered.

PROF. C.A. SHINDE,
Librarian

THE SCHOOL OF THE WISDOM

The School of the Wisdom (SOW) conducted four courses in Adyar in the reporting year.

The first session of the 2015 SOW offered an in-depth view into "The Yoga of Theosophy", with Dr Pablo Sender's inspiring lectures. Prof. R. C. Tampi led the class into a meditative exploration of "Life's Deeper Aspects" during the second course. In 2016 the ongoing "Self-Transformation and the Spiritual Life" course by Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., brought up important pointers towards awareness and humility. Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu gave the students of the fourth

session much more than mere "Glimpses into Chinese Philosophies in the Light of Theosophy", bringing philosophy and culture relevant to life.

For the second time a session of the School of the Wisdom was held at the Himalayan Centre of Theosophy, Bhowali. This session was in Spanish, directed by Dr Isaac Jauli and Dr Enrique Reig. The subject of study was "Beyond Physical Death: Internal Development Lessons through Theosophical Perspective".

Prof. R. C. Tampi

Director, The School of the Wisdom

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM

Document scanning was continued and H. P. Blavatsky's (HPB) documents were first taken up for this. Printouts were taken to provide reference material, to avoid the original documents being handled.

A rare manuscript "Source of Measures" referred by HPB in *The Secret Doctrine*, was scanned for preservation. A few visitors could take material for use in their projects. Preparation of a new catalogue was undertaken, after arrangement of the papers afresh. Several of the audio tapes and video cassettes were converted to digital media by Mr Vinay Kumar Patri, and the Great Banyan Audio Visual Centre was set up by him for using talks and documentaries for general viewing. The Centre

started functioning on 17 February 2016 by arranging for residents and friends to listen to a talk by former President N. Sri Ram. Thereafter, from time to time different programmes were organized by the Audio Visual Centre, including talks by J. Krishnamurti, G. S. Arundale, and C. Jinarājadāsa, under the aegis of the Archives.

Dr Isaac Jauli from Spain continued to look after the work of recovery of paintings, artifacts and old manuscripts. Mrs Laura Rodriguez & Mr Diego Fernandez, came from Argentina to help with the work of the Archives.

Mrs Kusum Satapathy
Officer-in-Charge

OLCOTT EDUCATION SOCIETY

Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School (OMHSS) continues to provide free education to economically underprivileged children. The school has 483 students (197 girls and 286 boys). In order to cater to Class X students graduating from the school, in addition to the Arts and Commerce stream, a Science stream in English medium has been added. A kindergarten class has been started in consultation with the Chennai Montessori Training Institute. The programme has been established with funding from Wipro Cares with whom we have signed a 3-year MOU in 2015.

As before, students were provided with free textbooks, notebooks, stationery supplies, lunch and two sets of uniforms. This year we were able to garner funding for buying school bags also. The morning *kanji* (porridge) is now more nutritious due to the addition of milk. Apart from the regular health check-up conducted by Dr R. Revathy, Rotary Mitra organized a dental camp. Guidance and counselling continued for children and parents, and they were provided advice and support in dealing with problems — both academic and emotional. Special classes for children who need extra help were conducted regularly.

On 3 August, to commemorate the birth anniversary of the School founder, Col. H. S. Olcott, a children's book titled *Olcott Thatha*, written and illustrated by some of our Class XII students, with the guidance of students from George Washington University Art Therapy

Program, was released by the school secretary Prof. C. A. Shinde. With support from Sir Beliappa and the Verizon Corporation, 17 students are undergoing training from the British Council on English language teaching and English proficiency building. The school Ecology Club won a Rs. 20,000 cash prize, which was utilized for undertaking various related activities in the school.

Sports: Our students participated in zonal and district level tournaments with a spirit of sportsmanship and camaraderie. They came out with stellar performance in carrom, kabaddi and handball.

Exam Results: Out of the 52 children who appeared for the Class X board exam, 49 cleared the exam — a 94% pass percentage. The first batch of Class XII students wrote their board examination in March 2015. Out of the 32 students, 10 students passed who are pursuing courses in various city colleges. The school teachers, headmistress and the director have met to introspect on the Class XII results and have come up with measures to be undertaken to improve the same in the coming years.

The school children participated in an art and mural painting workshop, inter-school drama festival, and Madras Week celebrations. In a singing competition conducted by Radio Mirchi two students who have been selected in this competition will get to train under the music maestro A. R. Rahman.

Volunteers from various organizations conduct classes on value education,

English and engage the students in many meaningful activities. The school was visited by officials/volunteers of donor agencies who interacted with our students and teachers. The visitors were very impressed with the school environment and the facilities offered. They have promised more support to the school in the coming years.

Social Welfare Centre (SWC): 72 children are nurtured under the able care of the administrator and staff of the SWC. The President Tim Boyd and his wife Lily visited the Centre and interacted with the children.

The Vocational Training Centre continues to provide free courses in tailoring, dress designing, drafting layout, cutting and stitching of materials for children, and hand embroidery. 36 students were enrolled in the course. Five small domestic sewing machines and 10

wooden stools were added to the Centre.

HPB Hostel: 6 children are enrolled as residents in the Hostel. They were drawn from the Olcott School as well as from some of the neighbouring schools.

In a collaboration of sorts — Unnati-OES-TS — more than 80 students have been trained and placed in various corporate organizations. The program provides free soft-skills training to unemployed youth and school dropouts from marginalised sections of the society. Infrastructure, boarding and lodging is provided under the aegis of OES-TS and the soft skill training and placement is done by Unnati.

As per the OES Treasurer, Mr Jambunathan the expenditure for running the units would exceed Rs. 11.5 million in the years to come.

Ms Sripriya Raghavan
Secretary, Olcott Education Society

BESANT MEMORIAL ANIMAL DISPENSARY

The Animal Dispensary has started renovation of its offices as expected. The compound will be having a stronger fence around it and partitions will also be done up. The clinic roof will be dismantled and redone. The recent cyclone felled a few branches which were cleared up immediately, and the dispensary was up and running without much delay.

A digital weighing machine has been received as donation.

The new veterinary surgeon, Dr R. M.

Kannambal took charge in June 2016. She is an expert in birth control procedures.

There were a total of about 2,800 cases attended this year, which included:

1. Dogs vaccinated — 530
2. Cats Vaccinated — 25
3. Animal Birth Control
Procedures — 55
4. Wound Management — 250
5. Out-patient cases — 1940

Mr S. A. Sanghram
Manager, BMAD

BESANT SCOUT CAMPING CENTRE

Thirteen institutions and scout groups utilized services of the Besant Scout Camping centre. Around 1,400 children benefited through camping activities in line with theosophical values.

Mr A. Victor Frank

Besant Scout Camping Centre

THE THEOSOPHICAL ORDER OF SERVICE

The Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) is currently present in 35 of the 55 countries where the TS is active.

Two stalwart TOS workers, Carolyn and Geoffrey Harrod, retired from the scene this year. Geoffrey has been the webmaster of our website <www.international.theoservice.org>. Both he and Carolyn have also put in many hours of untiring effort while producing our quarterly e-newsletter, *TOS In-Touch.Online* for which Carolyn did the layout each quarter. She also helped to produce a governance document for the TOS entitled "Principles of Organisation" and a *Theosophical Order of Service Handbook* for TOS officers and workers, among many other things. Ms Rozi Ulics from the United States, is the new webmaster, and we are now utilizing Constant Contact, an on-line service, for the layout and mailing of the TOS e-Newsletter. We continue to increase the activity on our TOS International Facebook Page, <www.facebook.com/tosinternational>, and our following is growing. This outreach effort offers further contact with our members and friends.

The International TOS began efforts this year to aid the Olcott Memorial Higher

Secondary School (OMHSS) in raising funds for its corpus fund. To this end the TOS published a special edition of its news-letter focused on the OMHSS, and letters expressing the need were sent to all TOS group leaders by the TOS International Secretary.

The dedication to service of TOS groups and individuals around the world benefited thousands of poor students, needy persons, ailing patients, aged men and women, the blind, the handicapped, orphans and animals. This year many of our TOS groups worldwide collected and/or donated money to help with relief efforts after the flooding in Chennai last December. They also stepped up to give aid after the earthquakes in Italy in August (and October) and massive flooding in the state of Louisiana in the United States.

Perhaps the most notable event this year was the 1st National Conference on Theosophical Education that took place in Bhubaneswar, India during 23–24 September, 2016. A joint effort of the Theosophical Society (TS) and the TOS, the conference focused on the idea and process of implementing a theosophical education model and English medium education in TOS and Besant Education

Foundation (BEF) schools and at the Olcott Memorial Higher Secondary School. Vicente Hao Chin of the Golden Link College in the Philippines facilitated the conference which was attended by approximately 40 administrators and teachers from schools in India.

Also of note is the work the TOS Italy has been doing to aid Syrian refugees which has been inspiring much interest and respect across the theosophical move-

ment. The TOS Italy has been actively helping Syrian refugees by sending clothes, food, medicines, shoes, toys and tents for the winter to immigrants on their way from Asia to Europe. Their collaboration with a doctor who is him-self a refugee in the camp of Bab al Salam on the Turkish border in Syria resulted in the construction of a small paediatric clinic.

Mrs Nancy Secrest

International Secretary, TOS

**REPORTS OF WORK
IN
NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS
REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS
PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES
LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR**

(Where necessary, reports have been translated, edited or condensed)

NATIONAL SOCIETIES AND SECTIONS

AFRICA, EAST AND CENTRAL

Founded 1947, membership 146. The **East and Central African Section** composed of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Zambia has increased its membership from 135 to 146, and the Section has 5 Lodges, two of them in Zambia. It is reported that it is becoming increasingly difficult to attract new members, but they continue their efforts. Nairobi Lodge has seen keen interest from a few new members. But administration of the other four Lodges has almost no one willing to take up administrative work. They look forward to regular international speakers visiting Lodges in Africa, as it may arouse more interest and attract new members. In Kenya, attempts are being made to form Theosophical Study Centres at Nairobi. Mrs Usha Shah, spends a couple of hours each Sunday morning, discussing Theosophical matters with this group. The Nairobi and Dar-es-Salaam Lodges are among the most active Lodges in the Section. The Nairobi Lodge held regular fortnightly meetings in English and weekly meetings in Gujarati and remains a model to other Lodges. Both Lodges are active in TOS. After a few years gap, the Mufulira Lodge organized the popular Public Speaking Contest under the TOS.

In Uganda the Nile Lodge held meetings and discussions twice a month. The 48th Convention of the Section took place in Kampala, Uganda, over the Easter holidays from 14 to 16 April. TOS (Dar-es Salaam Lodge) helped heart treatment for babies in India; and distributed toys to orphans, food and blankets to the needy, and food and stationery to schools for mentally challenged students. A children's party was held at Nairobi Lodge premises with a lot of activities, and fruit juice, hot meals, cup cakes and a bag of goodies were given to each child. Fees for students of Agriculture and Technology, and Medical University were paid; four youths were given a short training in gardening and landscaping. Mobile Library (TOS Library) provides books for children from the Gachie Village, children also play games, sing songs, do drama and are provided with a hot meal at the end of the activities. Women empowerment program was also initiated, seed capital was given to six women, to encourage them to start their own small business. Nairobi Lodge has a book stall with a rich collection of titles for sale to members and sympathizers.

Mr Narendra M. Shah
General Secretary

AFRICA, SOUTH

Founded in 1909, membership 151. The South Africa Section spent most of the first part of the year in preparations for the biannual Convention which was held at the Johannesburg Lodge on "Be the Change You Want the World to Be". During the Convention, Jack Hartmann was re-elected as General Secretary and Tom Davis as National Lecturer. Capetown, Pretoria, and Durban Lodges have been assessing the viability of relocating to residential suburbs more conducive to membership growth and retention, with positive financial results for the Lodges.

It is also reported that the use of Skype in National Executive meetings has become standard practice, which has resulted in a more unified approach to the direction of study. The Section has concentrated studies on the works of Madame Blavatsky as applied in today's world. However public lectures are still the Section's main vehicle for exposure to the Theosophical Society. The TOS is dormant in this Section for a number of decades and efforts are being made to activate it.

Mr Jack Hartmann
General Secretary

AFRICA, WEST

Founded in 1956, membership 243. The West African Section has 11 active Lodges and 6 Study Centres. This year the Annual Convention was cancelled due to acute indisposition of the General Secretary. The economic and political environment made things very difficult but they are hopeful that things will im-

prove with the recent election of a new government to be sworn into office in January. The Section holds an agency with the Theosophical Publishing House Adyar and has decided to set up a bookshop with books from Adyar.

Mr John O. Boakye
General Secretary

ARGENTINA AND PARAGUAY

Founded 1920, Membership 328. The Argentinian Section held a book fair in Río Cuarto, where they distributed flyers on the work of the TS and sold a number of theosophical books. About 2,500 information brochures titled "You Are Invited" were distributed nationwide and in Paraguay. A public conference given by international President Tim Boyd was held in mid-March in San Rafael on "The Root of All Problems", with 250 persons

attending. This was followed by the 3rd Seminar of Portuguese (Luso)-Hispanic Theosophy, jointly organized by the Inter-American Theosophical Federation (IATF) and the Argentinian Section on "The Change to Individual Transformation", with Mr Boyd and around 110 persons attending from 9 different countries. Esteban Langlois was the only candidate and was elected the new General Secretary of the Section for the period of October 2016 to

October 2019. The Headquarters will move to Buenos Aires. The Theosophical Center in San Rafael, Mendoza is actively promoting study and reflective activities with the

participation of members and sympathizers of the Theosophical Society.

Mr Esteban Langlois
General Secretary

AUSTRALIA

Founded 1895, membership 823. The Australian Section National Convention was held in January and had the International President Mr Tim Boyd as guest speaker. The completion of their first professionally produced promotional video, filmed during the Convention week, is now on the Section's website. A well-attended School of Theosophy at Springbrook was held in April, with John Vorstermans on *The Mahatma Letters*. A successful open day at Blavatsky Lodge took place in May, following its move to St. Leonards in Sydney. This included the inauguration of its new premises, a celebration of White Lotus Day, and an opportunity for over 300 people to enter the Lodge. Membership declined by 45, mainly in three Lodges. One TS centre expanded with 21 new members. However, the continuing overall decline in membership is one of the reasons for their current move, at the national level, for more active promotion of the TS. The course on "Understanding the Psychic World", prepared by the Education Coordinator Mr Pedro Oliveira, had steady sales during the year, with a

total of 60 printed copies being sold or sent to National Members under request. The website has increased usage during the year with continuous updates of web pages of Lodges, Branches and Groups around the Section. The Campbell library had 68 titles added to its collection; also, a new issue of the Campbell Library Newsletter was issued in July. The Section is experimenting with Facebook and found it to be a good channel for disseminating Theosophical work, also a business plan will be prepared in order to develop a marketing strategy to make the TS in Australia better known. The December issue of Theosophy in Australia announced the result of the election of State Representatives: Helen Steven (Tasmania), Phillipa Rooke (Queensland), Travis James (South Australia/Northern Territory), and Gary Betts (Victoria). TOS in Australia had an active working year within their local communities as well as sending donations to several charitable institutions around the world.

Mrs Linda Oliveira
General Secretary

BELGIUM

Founded 1911, membership 85. The Belgian Section reports that a study centre has been formed named "Open Paradigma", promoting the study of theosophy-science. The Brussels headquarters welcomed lec-

turers Trân-Thi-Kim-Điêu in November, speaking on Dharma, and Muriel Pécastaing-Boissière in April, with a lecture on Annie Besant, both being well attended. Most of the Lodge meetings and study groups

took place in the north of the country, its Dutch speaking part, and in the Brussels headquarters, on a variety of theosophical subjects. It is also reported that the young are finding their way to their activities and it is hoped this trend will continue. The Leuven Lodge is dormant and the Antwerp

Lodge has gone through a difficult year due to internal problems. TOS in Belgium is heavily fostered through means and effort, projects such as the "Books for Prisoners" and "Teddies for Tragedies" are going on.

Mrs Sabine Van Osta
General Secretary

BOLIVIA

Founded 1965, membership 122. Bolivia had become a Section in 2015 and received the Charter on 10 October 2015. Significant theosophical dates were commemorated. They were visited by Dr Isaac Jauli and Dr Enrique Reig in Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, and La Paz for three days in late May and early June, holding workshops and public conferences. The national conferences were held in Cochabamba in mid-August on *Service, Study, and Self-knowledge* by Radha Burnier; and in La Paz in late September on "Probation and Chelaship".

Many Lodges participated in the National Meeting programmes with talks and lectures. The Lodges and groups studied *The Voice of the Silence*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *Letters from the Masters*, *The Science of Yoga*, *Key to Theosophy*, *The Crest Jewel*, *At the Feet of the Master*, *Book of Life* by Krishnamurti, and other topics. TOS (the Theosophical Order of Service) had a break this year, but the Order of the Round Table was functioning.

Ms Guillermina Rios de Sandoval
Presidential Representative

BRAZIL

Founded 1920, membership 782. The Brazilian Section has 33 Lodges and 22 Study Groups around the country. The National Council met in January in Esmeraldas during their 35th Summer School; and in July during the Winter School, at the Institute in Brasília. They also held the International Theosophical School at the Theosophical Institute, with visiting lecturers Fernando de Torrijos from USA, and Barend Voorham, of the TS Point Loma in the Netherlands; and the 2nd Youth International Meeting in February with international President Tim Boyd participating. The Regional

Councils met once each semester in the four different regions, giving seminars, workshops, and lectures. A gathering with Mr Tom Davis from South Africa was held at the Theosophical Institute in Brasilia under the theme "Living the Theosophical Way." Their various departments are working at a fast pace. *Sophia* magazine has 636 subscribers, being sold at newsstands all over the country. The TOS is active in four cities with many activities of assistance to the needy and fundraising.

Mr Marcos L. B. de Resende
General Secretary

CUBA

Founded 1905, membership 566. The Cuban Section has 12 Lodges. Its annual convention was celebrated in January on "The Feminine Aspect in Manifestation". Lodge studies continued with various themes based on theosophical books, lectures, and articles. They are studying Annie Besant's *Thought Power* and *Esoteric Christianity*, *The Hidden Side of Things* by Leadbeater, and others. All Lodges in the Section celebrated the

official dates of the Society: Founder's, Adyar, and White Lotus Days. In July the Lodges in Havana organized a summer school on "Four Basic Ideas for the Study of *The Secret Doctrine*", organized as a workshop for members. The online magazine, *Revista Teosófica Cubana*, continued its quarterly publication.

Ms Barbara A. Fariñas Piña
General Secretary

ENGLAND

Founded 1888, membership 1,068. The **English Section** has become an official charity in June. Their 25 Lodges met regularly. London Headquarters continues to hold weekday and weekend study sessions on *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Yoga Sutras of Patanjali*, *Esoteric Science* and other theosophical topics. In September the Headquarters hosted an International Conference on Theosophical History, which was attended by members from

Israel, Canada and USA. The Summer School of the Section was on "Divine Wisdom" and the guest speaker was Trâm-Thi-Kim-Diêu; she gave the Blavatsky Lecture, entitled "The Wisdom of All Ages". After a few years absence from the European Federation the TSE was warmly welcomed back into the fold.

Mrs Jenny Baker
General Secretary

FINLAND

Founded 1907, membership 394. The Annual Convention of the Finnish Section was held at Helsinki Headquarters in April. In June their summer school took place at Kreivilä on "Compassion as a Way of Life", and in Estonia the Lodges arranged a summer school on "The World in Us and Us in the World". A new Finnish translation of HPB's *The Secret Doctrine II* was published in September, jointly by the TS and Kalevala and Minerva Lodges. The Section has 22 Lodges studying

Theosophical related subjects. TS was present in two fairs in Southern Finland, selling books and giving talks as well as answering questions, and in Northern Finland several lectures were delivered during a three-day fair called "The Days of Light". TOS in Finland continued fund-raising and supporting Olcott Memorial School, Social Welfare Centre and Boy's Hostel in Adyar. Many videos and lectures are available through internet, and the newsletter by e-mail reached over 600

subscribers. Finnish magazine *Teosofi* has 362 subscribers and is published six times a year. In April it was decided to begin the process of updating the Section's rules

taking into account the internet and social media as current communication channels.

Mrs Mirva Jaatinen
General Secretary

FRANCE

Founded 1899, membership 329. The French Section held its National Convention in the Paris Headquarters on "Theosophical Teachings and J. Krishnamurti's Message". It included two symposium talks and a public lecture on the theme by Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy. At the Paris Headquarters, the work of the four Lodges continued steady with meetings taking place once a month; Video projection of Jiddu Krishnamurti's talks took

place quarterly. Two one-day seminars were conducted by researchers and scientists and a Speaker's Course was organised. In the provinces Lodges have been active throughout the year. In Africa the two Lodges became active and two study groups were formed. All of the Section's programmes were published on its website and in their magazine, *Le Lotus Bleu*.

Mrs Jeannine (Nano) Leguay
General Secretary

GERMANY

Founded 1902, membership 119. The German Section summer school was their main event, with Dr Andreas de Bruin, and Jutta Häuser-Hartung, a specialist in yoga and the Upanishads. It was attended by members of TS Adyar, TS in Pasadena and Point Loma. During the school they commemorated the work of former General Secretary of the TS in Germany, Elisabeth Schmidt, who died in June

2016 at the age of 79. The Southern Meeting was held in September with Jan Jelle Keppler, from Belgium, who conducted a workshop on the Secret Doctrine. Work and meetings with 119 members in 7 Lodges continued on a regular basis. Their magazine, *Adyar*, is published three times a year.

Mrs Manuela Kaulich
General Secretary

GREECE

Founded 1928, membership 156. The Greek Section celebrated Foundation Day, White Lotus Day, and Adyar Day. Annie Besant's/ C. W. Leadbeater's book *Talks on the Path of Occultism* is under translation and *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett* is under proofreading. Apollon

Lodge in Athens and Kaviros Lodge in Alexandroupolis have lapsed. Study Group Prokris in the island of Cephallonia is inactive, but Radamanthis and Minos Lodges in Crete are working very well.

Mrs Eirini Kefaloudi
General Secretary

ICELAND

Founded 1921, membership 262. The Icelandic Section held their Summer School in Hveragerdi on the theme "Together to the Goal". Public talks are advertised in the main newspapers and are free of charge to the public in general. The Theosophical Journal "Gangleri" is published once a year and has more than 700 subscribers. The library and bookshop are

open once a week before and during the public talk. A selection of articles from the "Gangleri" Journal from the years 1926 to 1950 has been published in a book form. The "Mundilfari" Newsletter is published three times a year with news from the activities in Iceland as well as from TS abroad.

Mr Halldór Haraldsson
General Secretary

INDIA

Founded 1891, membership 11,323. The Indian Section remains the largest section of the TS. Its 16 Federations were active throughout the year. The 124th Indian Section Convention was held at Adyar on 1 January 2016, and was inaugurated by the International President, Mr. Tim Boyd. The 93rd South India Conference was held during the Easter Vacation from 25 to 27 March 2016 at the International Headquarters in Adyar with the theme *Light on the Path*, a book by Mabel Collins. The 168th Anniversary of Dr Annie Besant was celebrated at the Section Headquarters, Varanasi, on 1 October 2015 and had Professor Harikesh Singh as guest speaker. Adyar Day and Lotus Day were also celebrated. The *Garden of Peace* was created, and with the contribution of the Banaras Cultural Foundation, 380 plants of different varieties of Palm, were planted. The guest house (Suryashram) at the Section HQ has been completely renovated. *Thought Forms* paintings and *Man, Visible and Invisible* are being preserved and kept

in a climate-controlled environment. The North India Study Camp was held at the HQ of the Section, Varanasi, from 17 to 20 Oct. 2015. The International President Mr Tim Boyd directed the study on the subject, "The Three Objects of the Theosophical Society". A Study Camp was jointly organized by MP & Rajasthan and UP Federations at Gwalior from 9 to 10 April; the book taken up for study was *The Pathway to Perfection* by Geoffrey Hodson. A Study Camp was organized by the Indian Section at Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, from 20 to 26 April 2016. Prof. C. A. Shinde directed the study of the book *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins. The Karnataka Theosophical Federation organized a study camp at the Himalayan Study Centre in Bhowali, directed by B.V. Thippeswamy, President of the Karnataka Federation; the subjects taken up were *The Voice of The Silence* and *Light on the Path*. The Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, was the place chosen for the study camp of the Utkal Theosophical Federation; the book by

N. Sri Ram, *The Way Of Wisdom*, was the object of study from 15 to 20 May 2016; and from 30 to 31 May, a study camp was organized by the Indian Section at the Himalayan Study Centre, under the direction of Mr S. K. Pandey. A School of the Wisdom in Spanish language was conducted from 5 to 9 September 2016 at the Himalayan Study Centre, Bhowali, under the theme: "Beyond the Physical Death", directed by Dr Isaac Jauli Davila and Dr Enrique Reig Pintado, with 35 participants. On the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the Indian Section, a two-day seminar was organized on November 18–19 2015 in the Headquarters in Varanasi on "Looking Ahead in the Context of the Theosophical Society". A Retreat Seminar on "Quest of the Absolute: Abhinavagupta's Parātrimśikā Vivarana" was held at the Indian Section Headquarters from 17 December 2015. The Indian Section organized a two-day National Seminar hosted by the Delhi Federation in the city of Delhi on 30–31 July 2016 with the theme "Theosophy and the Modern World". The International President Mr Tim Boyd and his wife Lily were in Bombay for the 84th annual session of Bombay Federation. Mr Boyd as the Chief Guest, delivered the inaugural address on "The Illumined Mind". Mr Chittaranjan Satapathy, International Vice-President, was the Chief Guest on the occasion of the 51st Annual Convention of Utkal Theosophical Federation held in Cuttack

in the second week of February. The Central Property Committee, created in 2014 in order to accelerate the process of decision taking in matters of properties of the Section, is in the process of creating a database of all the properties of the Section, Federations and Lodges. The 14th East Zone Conference of TS and TOS was hosted this year by the Assam Theosophical Federation and was organized in the premises of Srimanta Sankardev Kalakshetra, Punjabari, Guwahati, from 1 to 3 April 2016. A National TOS Camp was held at the Indian Section Headquarters, Varanasi on 15–16 March 2016 as an effort to understand and share experience of various projects and social service being undertaken by the regions. The North Zone Conference of TOS for the year 2015–16, was sponsored by Noida Sanatan TOS Group on 3–4 August 2016, the theme of the conference being "We Care — We Share". The South Zone Conference of TOS was held on 10–11 September at Salem in Tamilnadu. The Section's journal *The Indian Theosophist* was published every month, with 3200 copies of the magazine being distributed every month and one special issue was released on the occasion of the 125th anniversary of the Section. Some Federations are trying to attract youth to their programs with themes that are of interest for the youngsters.

Mr S. Sundaram
General Secretary

INDONESIA

Founded 1912, membership 194. The new General Secretary of the Indonesian Section started his activities since 31 May 2015. The new leadership identified, mapped out the problems, and further designed a priority scale in planning the programs needed for the Section. It is also reported that in order to start needed changes,

implement programs, and pay the cost of legal cases the Section is asking for the help of the International Headquarters as well as brothers from other Sections who have the means to help.

Mr Widyatmoko
General Secretary

ITALY

Founded 1902, membership 934. The Italian Section, with its 29 Groups and 20 Centers, carried out both “members only” and public conferences. It is reported that the diffusion of the Theosophical Society in Italy is characterized by the presence of many small Groups and Centers. An important role is covered by the Italian Section’s website <teosofica.org>, which is constantly updated and attracts many visitors — more than 4,000 surfers visit the website every month — and the website hosts a “member only” section. The monthly magazine of the Section *Rivista Italiana di Teosofia* is issued with 1,300 printed copies and over 1,000 subscriptions. The monthly newsletter is emailed to over 4,500 people interested in the theosophical activities in Italy. The Section has also launched its official Facebook page. A regular and positive relationship continues with the academic world and universities. The Italian Publishing House made an agreement with the Theosophical Publishing House of Adyar, and purchased the rights of the theosophical literature in English. During the year under report the following books have been

published: *The Golden Stairs* by H. P. Blavatsky, *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins, *A Jewel on a Silver Platter* by Prof. P. Krishna and *Krishnamurti and Psychoanalysis* by Edoardo Bratina. A seminar was organized by the Italian Section, European Federation of TS and the Swiss Theosophical Society in Ascona March 2016 with the theme, “Ethics, True Spiritual Knowledge and Sustainability”. In June the 102nd National Congress took place in Perugia, with the theme “Jiddu Krishnamurti and Theosophy”. The International Vice-President, Mr Chittaranjan Satapathy, attended the Congress and Professor Gaetano Mollo from the University of Perugia was one of the lecturers. A Seminar on “Theosophy and Paganism” was organized in Grado, in September 2016. Jose Foglia attended the seminar delivering a lecture on “Neuroscience and Spiritual Experiences”. Mr Foglia gave talks in Vicenza, Trieste, and Milan. The Section keeps strong connection with the International Headquarters in Adyar and the Theosophical Center in Naarden, and is supporting the Adyar Renovation Project promoted by the International

President, Mr Tim Boyd. The activities in cooperation with the Italian TOS have further developed during the year with support to charity initiatives in Italy, Syria,

India, Pakistan, Burma, Kenya, Tanzania, and Philippines.

Mr Antonio Girardi
General Secretary

MEXICO

Founded 1919, membership 148. The Mexican Section reports that "The First Encounter of North America" was organized by the ITF and took place in Cholula, Puebla from 16 to 20 of March, with the International President Mr Tim Boyd as the guest of honor, the theme of the Encounter was "Applying the Principles of the Ageless Wisdom". Magaly Polanco from the Dominican Republic and Lygia Montiel

from Costa Rica visited the Section and delivered a talk at the National Headquarters. The traditional days of the TS were celebrated in the Section. The School of the Wisdom took place at the National Headquarters in mid-December and had Dr Isaac Jauli and Dr Enrique Reig as international guest speakers, the theme was "Katha Upanishad".

Mr Enrique Sanchez Arrieta
General Secretary

THE NETHERLANDS

Founded 1896, membership 325. The Dutch Section reports to have a close and brotherly cooperation with the International Theosophical Centre (ITC) in Naarden. The Section has an Information Centre, which is composed of the Library, Bookshop and TVN Office. The Library has a collection of 21000 books. An on-line shared cataloguing project was implemented in September 2016. Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu conducted a silent retreat in

October 2015. In July 2016 Vicente Hao Chin Jr conducted a "Self Transformation and the Spiritual Life" seminar, and in September 2016 the International President Mr Tim Boyd was the guest of the European afternoon. The magazine *Theosophia* has been published quarterly. The Lodges and Centres held many activities during the year under report.

Mr Wim Leys
General Secretary

NEW ZEALAND

Founded 1896, membership 633. The New Zealand Section held its National Convention during the month of January 2016 at Kawai Purapura in Albany, Auckland, with Victor Penaranda from the Philippines as the guest speaker. Mr Penaranda and others spoke on the theme "A Way of Being and a Way of Seeing . . .

in the World." Following the National Convention a "Process of Self-Transformation" seminar was held in Auckland, facilitated by Victor Penaranda and several others of the New Zealand PST facilitators. The School of Theosophy was a seven-day event with Pablo and Michele Sender as guests, and the theme was "The Yoga of

Theosophy". Mr Tom Davis from South Africa and Ms Diane Kynaston from Australia visited many branches of the Section. There is an effort to support branches for

their educational programs. The magazine *Theosophia* is published four times a year.

Mr John Vorstermans
General Secretary

THE PHILIPPINES

Founded 1933, membership 239. The Philippine Section has two new Lodges, totalling 20. Their Theosophical Publishing House in Manila publishes and distributes the quarterly public magazine *Theosophical Digest* through over 100 bookstores nationwide, which attracts new members. They also publish TS books and pamphlets and distribute these worldwide, including the *Theosophical Encyclopedia*; the chronological edition of *The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*; *The Collected Works of H. P. Blavatsky* (in digital edition

and CD-ROM version); and many others. The Section also maintains "theosophical schools", evolving a model for theosophical education, catering to many underserved areas. Former General Secretary and current Golden Link College President, Vicente Hao Chin, Jr, gave numerous lectures in the Philippines and abroad, including Adyar and Bhubaneshwar in India, and in Hong Kong, the Netherlands, New Zealand, and Switzerland.

Dr Roselmo Z. Doval-Santos
General Secretary

PORTUGAL

Founded 1921, membership 111. The Portuguese Section held public sessions in its new premises in Lisbon every fortnight. The International Vice-President, Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy visited the Section and talked on "Theosophical Teaching and J. Krishnamurti's Message". Self-knowledge, silence, words and music,

were themes explored during public meetings. The Lodges in Lisbon, Evora and Porto, as well as the Study Group in Azores and Setubal, work with enthusiasm and dynamism, attracting new sympathizers.

Mrs Ana Maria Coelho de Sousa
General Secretary

SPAIN

Founded 1921, membership 318. The Spanish Section held a 4-day silent retreat in "El Casal de Pau", located in the middle of the hills of Montseny. The retreat was conducted by Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu and based on the analysis of *The Golden Stairs* of H. P. Blavatsky. Dr Jose Foglia Mafio from Uruguay conducted two seminars on "Neuroscience and Meditation" during the

month of October 2015. The 38th Jornadas Ibericas (Iberian Days) was held from 24 to 27 of March near Madrid, it was organized by the Hesperia Lodge, from Madrid together with the General Secretary of the Section. The theme was "Man, Know Thyself". From 29 April to 1 May 2016, Carmen Cesar held a seminar on "The Emerald Tablet". The Summer School of

the Section was held from 20 to 28 August in Sant Feliu de Guixols, the theme was "Meditation" and Pablo Sender conducted the sessions. The Spanish Theosophical

Publishing House continues with the edition of the bimonthly magazine *Sophia*.

Mrs Angels Torra
General Secretary

SWEDEN

Founded 1895, membership 158. The Lodges and Study Groups of the Swedish Section had lectures and studies on various topics, like "Mindfulness", "A Way to Know Yourself", "Non-duality", "The Secret Doctrine", and "Theosophy — An Introductory Study Course". Mini-schools, one in the autumn and one in the spring, were organized at the Head-

quarters in Stockholm. The Summer School was held at Wiks Folkhögskola, with the theme "Ancient Wisdom — Modern Insight". The bookshop in Stockholm has been open two days a week. TOS in Sweden has helped children in an orphanage in Latvia.

Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund
General Secretary

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Founded 1895, membership 3292. The American Section (TSA) reports that the Olcott Library and Archives produced the first digitized book. Their last year's announcement of the closing of Quest Books was premature, since the TPH operations will be profitable for the first time in more than twenty years. Online education efforts via Internet-based seminars and classes (or webinars) continued to grow. They are available through the TSA website and their YouTube channel. Public programs are now offered every day of the week and on some days there are multiple programs. Attendance increased in every category of programming. The Prison Program continues to be active, continuing to touch the lives of hundreds of prisoners. The Archivist continues to assist researchers, members, and staff around the world. She coordinates the online Theosophical encyclopedia, Theosophy Wiki, now available in French,

Russian, Spanish, and English. Quest Book Shop added 120 titles to the Theosophy section, and a number of them were newly integrated into other categories of relevance, doubling the sales of Theosophical books. The Theosophical Order of Service (TOS) publishes *The Spirit of Service* e-newsletter 3 or 4 times per year. Their healing network has 46 groups and many individuals performing regular healing meditations. Their magazine, *For the Love of Life*, is published annually. TOS funds were granted to a conference on theosophical education in Odisha, India. Emergency funds were sent to Adyar in January for Chennai flood relief; in September to the Italian TOS for earthquake relief; and to the Louisiana TOS also for flood relief. Finally, a grant was given to the TOS Annie Besant Mode! School in Odisha, India.

Mr Tim Boyd
General Secretary

REGIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

AMERICA, CENTRAL

Founded 1929, membership 14. The Regional Association of Central America comprises two countries: Nicaragua and El Salvador. In Nicaragua, Blavatsky Lodge meets in Managua and in El Salvador, Teotl Lodge meets in San Salvador. Directed study in *The Secret Doctrine*, *At the Feet of the Master* and *Esoteric Christianity* were conducted with handouts of information material for each participant. Public lectures were held on the Biography of Jiddu Krishna-murti, Mystic Christ, The Upanishads, Chronology of Brahma, The Divine

Hermaphrodite, Succession of Races, Regenerating Wisdom, Thought, Mind, Consciousness. The Inter American Theosophical Federation sponsored conferences on the Law of Analogy and Correspondence, The Universe and its Laws, Vehicles of Consciousness, Karma, and Evolution. Ligia Josefina Gutierrez Simpson was chosen as the Organizing Secretary for a period of two years — October 2016 to September 2018.

Mrs Ligia Josefina Gutierrez Simpson
Organizing Secretary

AUSTRIA

Founded 1912, membership 55. The Region has three active Lodges, which offered weekly lectures throughout the year, based on classical theosophical teachings and related subjects. Lectures were regularly placed on the TS Austria website. Members received the magazine *Adyar*, published by the German TS three times a year. In April 2016 Raphael Langerhorst, member of the Lodge in

Linz, financed and built 4 houses in Trisuli near Kathmandu after the Nepal earthquake. In one building a Theosophical Library was set up with books ordered from the Theosophical Publishing House in Adyar. The costs were covered by the Lodge in Linz.

Mr Albert Schichl
Organizing Secretary

CANADA

Founded 1924, membership 134. The Association elected a new Organizing Secretary and Vice-Organizing Secretary, followed by the formation of a Lodge in Val-David, near Montreal. A new Treasurer

was appointed, which resulted in the transfer of all the National Financial activities from Calgary to Vancouver. Three board meetings were held during the year using Skype facilities. Before using Skype

the board meeting was possible only once a year during the National Convention. The national magazine *The Light Bearer/Le Porteur de Lumière* welcomed two new editors. For the first time an editorial team was created, with the challenge to make the magazine an efficient instrument of communication between members of the two linguistic sections of the one national association's publication. The magazine is issued electronically, four times a year. Two new Study Centers, one in Calgary, Alberta and the second one in Nanaimo,

BC, had their official meeting in September. In July Mrs Maryse DeCoste, the Organizing Secretary of the Association attended the 130th Summer National Convention of the TSA. Over the summer approximately 85% of the library was moved from Montreal to Toronto where the new Librarian-Archivist lives. A website liaison was appointed; he is expected to give a more attractive look to the existing website.

Mrs Maryse DeCoste
Organizing Secretary

CHILE

Founded 1920, membership 56. The Annual Convention was held in April 2016 under the motto: "Discovering Ourselves"; during the Convention a voting process ratified the current board of the Association for the period of 2016 to 2019. In order to spread Theosophical teachings an online radio station is being used, pamphlets are distributed on subways, and electronic pages, *The Chilean Theosophical Magazine* and the *Theosophical Brochure*, are sent monthly to different Spanish-speaking countries. The main subjects studied in the Lodges were: *Theosophy Explained in Questions and Answers* by P. Pavri, Inner Knowledge and Human Relations, The Will, Miracle of Awakening: Altruism and Unity Consciousness, Altruism, The Secret Doctrine, and Yoga. Public lectures were held on The Nature of Our Existence, The Mirror of Relationships, Approaches to

Our Transformation, Truth and Ethics among others. The Department of Education offered every Monday courses on Theosophy and Self-knowledge, open to the public in general. Workshop to members was held on *The Secret Doctrine*, Meetings and Retreats, and Introduction to Yoga. Two meditation retreats took place in November 2015 and April 2016. Mr Arnoldo Salzman and Ms Elsa Arregui from Argentina visited the Association. The Library is open every Saturday. The translations team worked on the following books: *Sharing the Light* by Geoffrey Hodson Volume I, *Mount Everest* by G. S. Arundale, *The World around Us* by Radha Burnier, *Damodar* by S. Eek, and *Reflections on the Ageless Wisdom: A Commentary on The Mahatma Letters to A. P. Sinnett*, by Joy Mills.

Mr Cesar A. Ortega Ortiz
Organizing Secretary

IRELAND

Founded 1919, membership 74. The 11th All Ireland Convention was held in Dublin on 28 May 2016. Mr Bhupendra Vora was the guest speaker. The talk was on the Convention theme, "The Glorious Future of Man". The main group has completed study notes on *The Voice of The Silence* and will start the study on the *Bhagavad Gita*, from notes by Dr John Algeo. Belfast Lodge meetings were held every second Sunday of every month. The main study book during the year was *The Ancient Wisdom* by Annie Besant. Some of the talks given were "Acceptance" by Marjorie Bloch, "East & West Religion & Theosophy" by Paul Johnston, "Trust

Yourself to Life" by Marie Harkness, among others. TS magazines and texts are available to the members at the meetings. Phoenix Lodge meetings were held quarterly in a conference room at Buswell's Hotel and were well attended. The Association has two Study Groups, one in Coleraine and the other in Castlebar. The Organizing Secretary is in touch with a number of enquirers, a few have come through meetings and many through the website, <www.theosophyireland.com>, which is helpful to those who wish to know about the TS and its activities in Ireland.

Ms Marie Harkness
Organizing Secretary

IVORY COAST

Founded 1997. No report.

Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh
Organizing Secretary

NORWAY

Founded 1913, membership 19. A new website has been created with the help of members. 5 new members have joined the Ostfold Lodge, which held several meetings through the year. Facebook page has been active and more people have ex-

pressed their interest in becoming members. A new Organizing Secretary will be elected during the next year.

Dr Saleh Noshie
Organizing Secretary

SCOTLAND

Founded 1910, membership 129. The Scottish Association is using the web to make their way to people interested in Theosophy. The Library is being catalogued electronically in order to make it a resource for TS members and students worldwide. For many years, the Association has been inviting Inter-

national guests to speak on Theosophical topics. Lodges with Study Groups have been working on *The Key to Theosophy*, *The Secret Doctrine* and articles for TS magazines, which have inspired deeper discussions.

Mr Stuart Mackenzie Trotter
Organizing Secretary

SLOVENIA

Founded 1992, membership 53. The four Lodges had regular weekly meetings. Public lectures were held by Breda Zagar in Ljubljana and Celje. Members are studying classical theosophical books: *Talks on the Path of Occultism* by CWL and AB, *At the Feet of the Master* by J. Krishnamurti, *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins, *Freedom from the Known* by J. Krishnamurti, *Principles of Theosophical Work* and *Self-Culture* by I. K. Taimni, *The World Around Us* by Radha Burnier, and articles from *The Theosophist*. Videos J. Krishnamurti were watched followed by group discussion. The Winter School was held from 19 to 21 February in Soncek, with the motto, "Theosophy Calls to Dignity"; the speakers were Damjana Gec, Ljuba Susanj, Blanka B. Borstnar, Branko Staric and Breda Zagar. Krishnamurti's

talk "The Brain Is Always Recording" was part of the program. The Adyar Day was celebrated with the listening of the Adyar Song in the voice of Ms K. Jaishree from Adyar. The Summer School took place in Kranjska Gora from 10 to 12 June and had the International Vice-president Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy and Mrs Femmie Liezenga from ITC Naarden as guest speakers; the motto of the School was "Love and Compassion — The Essence of Theosophy". Krishnamurti's talk "What Kind of Brain Is Needed for Meditation?" was viewed. All memorial days were celebrated. On 24 September 2016 Blanka Blaj Borstnar was elected as new Organizing Secretary of the TS in Slovenia.

Mrs Breda Zagar
Organizing Secretary

TOGO

Founded 1997, membership 25. The Association has two active Lodges, Amour and John Coats. Study meetings take place twice a month in the Lodges at Adeta and Kara. The Annual Convention took place on 12 August at the Theosophical Center of Danyl. The themes that were taken up for study during the year under report were: Spiritual Heading; The First Steps on

the Way to Occultism by H. P. Blavatsky; The Power of Thought; The Three Aims of the TS and Their Relations with Theosophical Life from *Lotus Bleu*, the French magazine. The Theosophical Society in France supports the Association by sending books and the monthly magazine.

Mr Kouma Dakey
Organizing Secretary

UKRAINE

Founded 2013, membership 94. The five Lodges and three Study Centres conducted regular meetings during the year. In October 2016 the Public Organization "The Theosophical Society in Ukraine" was officialized and registered

in Kiev. The 11th Annual Convention took place in Kiev, the theme was "Theosophy in the Changing World", and about 50 participants from various parts of Ukraine attended the function. The White Lotus Day was celebrated with ceremonies and

decorative design in all Branches and Study Centres, and a public meeting was organized at HPB House, which was attended by Mr and Mrs Bishoffa from USA and Mr and Mrs Singhal from India. The TOS in Ukraine is actively helping old people, children, animals, Nature and those in difficulties due to military operations in the East region of the country; the International TOS Secretary Ms Nancy Secrest visited the Association. In August fifteen representatives of TS in Ukraine and other volunteers, participated in repairing works in HPB House. A large financial help was collected by many branches and Study Center of Kharkiv for the purchase of building materials. A new apartment was added to the Museum and a room for group meetings was also prepared. Ms Nancy Secrest from USA and Mr Antonio Girardi and his co-workers Patrizia and Sergio Calvi from

Italy also joined the group of volunteers in repairing the HPB House. HPB's birthday was celebrated on 12 August in the HPB House. The scientific group was active during the year and a monthly seminar "Science and Theosophy" was held. From 30 July to 18 August, an exhibition called "Inexhaustible Source" was displayed in Kiev, in the National Taras Shevchenko Museum. The electronic magazine *Svitoch* (Light Bearer) had five issues published during the year, with international news as well as those from Ukraine. The book *Short History of Theosophical Society, 1874-1891* was published. Public activities held by the association were as follows: seven seminars, one round table, thirty four public lectures and one study course of basic theosophical knowledge.

Ms Svitlana Gavrylenko
Organizing Secretary

URUGUAY

Founded 1925, membership 56. Every Lodge meets once a week and the studies are on *The Secret Doctrine* by H. P. Blavatsky, *The Way of the Wizard* by D. Chopra, *The Power of Now* by E. Tolle, *Human Regeneration* by Radha Burnier, and *The Key to Theosophy* by H. P. Blavatsky, articles from the internet and from *Sophia*, the magazine of the Spanish Section, videos from a Seminar in Spain by Dr Jauli D'avila and videos from Mr Juan Vinas in Brasilia are also part of the material used for the studies. The library is open to the public two days a week. Facebook is also being used as a channel for people interested in Theosophical sub-

jects. Bishop Miguel Batet from Argentina visited the Association and talked about "The Present and the Future of Theosophy". TOS is actively helping an animal dispensary and cooperating with "Refugio SOS Caninos y Equinos" (dogs and horses). Free classes on Chi-Kung, English and Portuguese are available for members and sympathizers. There was a Psychology Workshop where Members and sympathizers took part. A lecture on "The Importance of the Inferior Ego in the Experience of a Three Dimensional Life" was given by Psic. Ana Rocha.

Mr Ramon Garcia
Organizing Secretary

WALES

Founded 1922, membership 77. The Region has four Lodges and one Centre. Three Lodges were active with meetings held fortnightly. In Conwy Branch the meetings have been suspended and 10 of the members are unattached to any Lodge or Centre. At Bangor Lodge Mr Eric McGough gave four lectures on the "Nature of Consciousness" from October

to December 2015, which continue in 2016, the series of studies is available in his website <emcgough.com> Talks were given for members and the public at Bangor, Colwyn Bay and Holyhead, and the visiting speakers were sponsored by the Foundation for Theosophical Studies.

Mrs Julie Cunningham
Organizing Secretary

PRESIDENTIAL AGENCIES

ASIA, EAST AND SOUTH-EAST

Formed 1990, membership 552. The Agency for East and South-East Asia is present in four countries, namely Singapore, Malaysia, Japan and Myanmar, with an active Lodge in each. The Singapore Lodge and the Olcott Lodge (Yangon), both initiated by Col. H. S. Olcott himself, rank among the oldest Lodges in the world. The Singapore Lodge formed in 1889 is

the largest in this region. The Chinese Project Team, which develops the Chinese website and carries out translations of theosophical literature into Chinese is based in Singapore Lodge. The Selangor Lodge, formed in 1929, is currently the sole Lodge in Malaysia.

Mr Chong Sanne
Presidential Representative

NIPPON LODGE (TOKYO, JAPAN)

Founded 1971, membership 37 (in 2016). No Report.

Mr Taichi Yamaguchi
Lodge President

SELANGOR LODGE (MALAYSIA)

Founded 1927, membership 89. Lodge meetings were held every Saturday with readings from selected texts on topics ranging from philosophy, science, religion and spirituality. After the meetings the Lodge's resident spiritual guide conducted discourses of nondual wisdom traditions of Advaita Vedanta, Western Hermetic traditions, Christian Mysticism and Theravada Buddhist Forest Medi-

tation. Talks were given by members and guest speakers. The Secretary of the Indo-Pacific Federation, Mrs Vicki Jerome, visited the Lodge. A spiritual retreat on "Self Enquiry and Non-dual Meditation to Heal the Wounds of Ignorance", was held at the Anani Rainforest Villa in Pahang.

Ms Ng Ay Na
Lodge President

OLCOTT LODGE (YANGON TS, MYANMAR)

Founded 1885, membership 45. Every weekend the Lodge held meetings and group studies. A conscious force meditation was held every weekend. Every full moon a life force meditation was held. Four meditation trips to ancient sacred places

around Myanmar were organized. The Lodge celebrated Annie Besant's birthday, Foundation Day, Christmas Day, Adyar Day, Wesak Day and White Lotus Day.

Mr Htay Myint
Lodge President

SINGAPORE LODGE

Founded 1889, membership 368. Lodge meetings were held on Saturdays with talk on video. The 40th and 41st editions of *A Course in Theosophy* was held in September. The 140th Anniversary

of the foundation, the 127th anniversary of the Singapore Lodge and Wesak Day were celebrated.

Mr Chong Sanne
Lodge President

BANGLADESH

Founded 2013, membership 293. The visit of Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya, last December, gave new shape to the movement in Bangladesh. Mr Achinta Das, Secretary of Comilla Lodge, revived the activities of the Lodge and organized different programs, and a good number of books of theosophical literature were sold and distributed. Public meetings were organized along with the publication of booklets on

the occasion of Annie Besant's Birthday and White Lotus Day. In Dhaka four meetings were organized, members studied the books *Principles of Theosophical Work*, *At The feet of the Master*, *Thought Power and Beauty of Islam*. There are eight active Lodges with members from Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist and Christian communities.

Mr B. L. Bhattacharyya
Presidential Representative

COLOMBIA

Founded 1937, membership 52. There has been a change of Presidential Representative, from Nelly Medina to Antonio Martinez. There are eight Lodges and two study centers in the country, the Lodges functioned regularly during the year, four in Bogota, two in Medellin, one in Cali and another in Bucaramanga. They celebrated four traditional theosophical days, including their own found-

ation day. Basic course on *Approaching Theosophy* was offered to public. TOS is active in Bogota and in rural areas, and they also hold meditation for peace. "The Round Table" ritual is performed by young people, and they have been receiving the *Theosophical Readers' Digest* continuously since 1952.

Mr Antonio Martinez
Presidential Representative

COSTA RICA

Founded 1997, membership 59. Currently there are five Lodges in Costa Rica. Rama Virya has not sent report this year. The other four Lodges have regular meetings every week with a variety of profound theosophical subjects. *The Science of Yoga*

by I. K. Taimni, articles from *The Collected Writings of HPB*, *The Secret Doctrine*, *The Mahatma Letters*, *Light on the Path* by Mabel Collins, were some of the books studied during the year. Winter School was held on the Theme, "The Golden Thread

of Esoteric Tradition" with 18 participants, including some members from out of town. The Summer School was held under the theme, "Schools of Mysteries", with 17

participants, including some members from out of town and one out of Costa Rica.

Ms Maria de los Angeles Orlich Soto
Presidential Representative

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Founded 1987, membership 42. In November the Dominican Republic received a group of more than ninety brothers and sisters from different parts of America, North, South, Central America and the Caribbean, the group gathered in the Pinar Dorado Hotel in the mountainous area of the central region of the island. The main theme of the Seminar of the Caribbean Basin was *An Illuminated Mind*. The lectures were presented by Isis Resende, Martin Leiderman, Gaspar Torres, Felipe de Castro, Lissette Aroyo, Maria Orlich, Fernando Torrijos, and Sergio Moraes Besos. On the closing day of the Seminar, sister Ondina Duran visited. Words of

gratitude were expressed to remember the work of such a devoted theosophist. Atma Lodge hosted a public lecture "I deserve the family wherein I was born" by Mr Isaac Jauli, in November 2015 at the Dominican Athenaeum with the attendance of members and the public in general. In April Mr Terry Hunt gave a public lecture and directed a three-day retreat in the mountains of Jarabacoa. In February Mr Fernando Torrijos gave a lecture at Universidad de la Tercera Edad (UTE), and two public lectures and a workshop in Santo Domingo.

Mrs Magaly Polanco
Presidential Representative

HUNGARY

Founded 1907, membership 31. Only one Lodge was active during the year under report. A public lecture was held every month with 25-50 participants. Monthly open meetings were held a few days after the regular lecture in order to answer their questions about the lecture. Voice recordings with slides were

uploaded to the website. Two members worked in translations and corrections of earlier published writings. The newly translated sixth part of *The Secret Doctrine* was published. White Lotus Day was celebrated.

Mr Thomas Martinovich
Presidential Representative

PAKISTAN

Founded 1948. Membership, NA. Activities started in Karachi in their own building. The Jamshed Memorial Montessori School and the Theosophical Order of Service are active. Cataloguing work

at library is in process. Small schools at teachers' homes are also working at a range where basic education is given to children.

Mr Bhagwan Bharvani

PERU

Founded 1924, membership 33. The Lodges offered a total of 17 public talks on subjects related to Theosophy including "Sex and Spirituality", "Mind and Consciousness", "Theosophy and Modern Science", "The Essential Human Condition", "Religions and Theosophy", "Doctrine of the Heart" among others. A free course of Theosophy was available for public on the internet. The HPB Lodge studied

Man, God and Universe by Taimni, *The Gardener* and *At the Feet of The Master* by J. Krishnamurti. Lodge Verdad studied *Theosophy in the XXI Century* by Carlos Perez Menendez. The Agency celebrated the Foundation Day, Adyar Day and the White Lotus Day. For financial reasons, the magazine *Busqueda* was not produced.

Mr Julio Gerardo Pomar Calderón
Presidential Representative

PUERTO RICO

Founded 1925, membership 39. A quarterly program of lectures was offered. Almost every Sunday throughout the year, public lectures on a wide range of theosophical subjects were held. Jesus Lopez facilitated a seminar titled "Esoteric Symbolism". He also takes care of the web page with a virtual library on line. Adyar Day, Foundation Day and White Lotus Day were celebrated. The three Lodges were active through the year. In November the President of the Inter-American Theo-

sophical Federation, Mrs Isis Resende visited Puerto Rico and delivered two public conferences. Many members from the Agency attended the Theosophical Seminar of the Caribbean Basin, "An Illuminated Mind". In April Mr Terry Hunt, an international lecturer visited Puerto Rico and facilitated a seminar for members "The Path of Discipleship and the Science of Yoga", and also presented two public lectures.

Mrs Malagy Polanco
Presidential Agent

RUSSIA

Founded 2013, membership 170. In September 2015 a series of theosophical seminars were conducted in Nizhny by Mr V. Bakanov. In November 2015 the second Russian Theosophical Congress took place in Moscow, with the theme: "Past, Present and Future of the Theosophical Society". In January 2016 the Study Center Vozrozhdenie conducted a theosophical seminar in Makaryevka village. The Annual Seminar in Kemerovo and a Seminar on *The Secret Doctrine*

and *Agni Yoga* were held In January 2016. The All-Russian Theosophical Conference was held in March at Moscow with the theme: "Compassion and Universal Responsibility". The first issue of the miscellany magazine, *Modern Theosophical Thought*, was published in April. The first theosophical conference was conducted in Novokuznetsk: "Multifacetedness of Theosophical Thought". White Lotus Day and H. P. Blavatsky's birthday were celebrated. Two Study Centers were cre-

ated, one in Makaryevka and one in Yurga. Work for the creation of the Siberian Theosophical Center is going on. Dialogue between theosophists from Russia and Ukraine is established. It is also

reported that the Theosophical Society in Russia is getting stronger and its development is steady.

Mr Alexey Besputin
Presidential Representative

SRI LANKA

Founded 1926, membership 182 (2015). During the year under report monthly meetings and many other programs were held with topics such as "In Search of the Truth", "The Benefit of Mindfulness", "The Mystic Secret of Meditation",

"Living and Practices of True dharma", "Jesus and his Mystical Teaching" and others. The 169th birth anniversary of Annie Besant was celebrated.

Mr M. B. Dassanayake
Presidential Representative

SWITZERLAND

Founded 1910, membership 23. One half of the members are in Geneva and one half in Ticino (Italian Switzerland). The members from Ticino gladly work with the Italian Section. The Lodges are small but

the work is seriously done. The books studied are those from Dr Taimni, Krishnamurti, HPB as well as Buddhist and Hindu authors.

Ms Eliane Gaillard
Presidential Representative

VENEZUELA

Founded 1953, membership 16. The two lodges held meetings and are studying *The Secret of Self-Realization* by I. K. Taimni, *Study in Consciousness* by Annie Besant, and "The Two Paths" an article by Mary

Anderson. Mr Oscar Jose Hernandez is teaching Theosophy to a local group of Pemon, native aborigines, in the State of Bolivar.

Mrs Nelly Nouel
Presidential Agent

LODGES ATTACHED TO ADYAR

LOTUS LODGE (CROATIA)

Membership 20. Lodge meetings took place every Friday in Zagreb. The subjects studied were taken from *The Theosophist* magazine.

Ms Nada Tepés
Lodge President

EL SOL LODGE (ECUADOR)

Membership 12. No report.

ARC-EN-CIEL LODGE (FRANCE)

Membership 15. Meetings are held regularly each month at its headquarters. The work on the book *Isis Unveiled* by H. P. Blavatsky is going on. During several meetings, discussions on Science and Spirituality were held. White

Lotus Day was celebrated with the members of Ananda Lodge, and extracts of theosophical books were read on the occasion.

Mr Jean Ioza
Lodge President

ANANDA LODGE (FRANCE)

Membership 15. The Lodge met regularly every month and continued to study Annie Besant's *A Study in Consciousness*. On Adyar Day a lecture was given by Mr Jean Ioza on *The Founders in Adyar* with projection of photographs of the area both with the

members of the Arc and Ciel and Ananda Lodges. In January the Lodge had re-elected its officers, Brigitte Ioza — President, Jean Adjuto — Secretary, Cecile Giuliani — Treasurer.

Mrs Brigitte Ioza
Lodge President

COVENANT LODGE (ISRAEL)

Membership 66. Public meetings were held monthly in Ramat-Gan and in the north of the country. Members' meetings were held every week. The studies included various articles and subjects from the theosophical magazines and books, such as "Freedom and Limitation in the

Action of the Law of Karma", "Be a Light unto Yourself" — in the spirit of HPB and J. Krishnamurti, "Practical Theosophy", "Freedom from the Shackles of the Known — Buddha, Krishnamurti and Theosophy" and many others. "The Secret Doctrine Members' Study

Meeting" is a monthly meeting where *The Secret Doctrine* is read and discussed. A Seminar in Tel Aviv on "The Spiritual in Music and Painting" was held. "Meeting Intelligently the Challenges of Life" was a seminar held in a hotel in the Dead Sea. In Tel Aviv a seminar on "Love of Wisdom and Wisdom of Love in Theosophy and Judaism" was held and had forty-four participants. In June 2016 in Bar-Ilan University in cooperation with

the Institute of Science and Consciousness a seminar was held on the theme: "Personal Awareness and Social Responsibility". During the year under report two excursions were held, in which the participants discussed various spiritual subjects and meditated in Nature. Six study groups are active and meet once a month.

Mr Abraham Oron
Lodge President

H. P. BLAVATSKY LODGE (QATAR)

Membership 9. The Lodge met twice a month with study classes on "Theosophy", "The Ocean of Theosophy", and "Occultism". Group discussions were held on J. Krishnamurti's lectures.

Mr Dom Escobido
Lodge President

ORLANDO LODGE (USA)

Membership 14. The Lodge held meetings twice a month. The first meetings of the month are called "Meditation on Life" which is based on Sri Ram's text. After meditation there were readings and discussions on selected theosophical topics. The second meeting of the month studied the book *Talks with a Class* by Annie Besant. On the second Sunday of October each year, a special "Nature Sanctuary Day" is held in the campus of the Lodge. The "School for Theosophy,

Orlando" holds regular classes in basic Theosophy and meditation. A website <tso-orlando.org> is maintained by the Lodge. A quarterly e-newsletter "Theosophy Today" is published and sent to 1340 e-mail addresses. A Theosophy Healing Circle meets on the fourth Friday of every month. It conducts a healing meditation for those who have requested healing prayers.

Mr Carl Metzger
Lodge President

**DIRECTORY
AND
MINUTES
OF THE MEETING OF THE
GENERAL COUNCIL**

INTERNATIONAL DIRECTORY

as of September 2016

Date	Section	General Secretary, etc.	Address	Magazine	Email address
1947	Africa, East and Central	... Mr Narendra M. Shah	... PO Box 14525. 00800, Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya	... <i>The Theosophical Light</i>	narendrashahi999@gmail.com
1909	Africa, South	... Mr Jack Hartmann	... 9 Ronean, 38 Princesses Ave., Windsor E. 2194	... <i>The South African Theosophist</i>	hartmann.jack.c@gmail.com
1956	Africa, West	... Mr John Osmond Boakye	... PO Box 720, Accra, Ghana	... <i>The West African Theosophist</i>	tswafrica@gmail.com
1929	America, Central *	... Mrs Beatriz Martínez Pozas	... Colonia Universitaria Norte, Calle Julio Mejía, Polígono E-7, Mejicanos. San Salvador, El Salvador C. A.		bemapo@hotmail.com
1920	Argentina	... Mr Jorge Garcia	... Santiago 257 — 2000, Rosario	... <i>Teosofia en Argentina</i>	stargentina@sociedad-teosofica.com.ar
1990	Asia, East and Southeast †	... Mr Chong Sanne	... 540 Sims Avenue, No. 03-04 Sims Avenue Centre, Singapore 387 603	... <i>Newsletter</i>	sanne@theosophyasia.net
1895	Australia	... Mrs Linda Oliveira	... Level 2, 162 Goulburn St., Surry Hills, NSW 2010	... <i>Theosophy in Australia</i>	tshq@austheos.org.au
1912	Austria *	... Mr Albert Schichl	... Oberbaumgarten 25, 4204 Haibach im Mühlkreis	... <i>Theosofie Adyar</i>	theosophie.austria@aon.at
2013	Bangladesh †	... Mr B. L. Bhattacharya	... B/4-3, Iswarchandra Nibas, 68/1, Bagmari Road, Kolkata 700 054		blbtos_2005@yahoo.com
1911	Belgium	... Mrs Sabine Van Osta	... Place des Gueux 8, B1000 Brussels	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	sabine_van_osta@hotmail.com
1965	Bolivia	... Mrs Guillermina Rios de Sandoval	... Pasaje Jauregui No. 2255, La Paz		guilleriossandoval@yahoo.com
1920	Brazil	... Mr Marcos L. B. de Resende	... SGAS Quadra 603, N. 20, CEP 70200-630 Brasília (DF)	... <i>Sophia</i>	marcos.resende@riedel.com.br
1924	Canada *	... Mrs Maryze DeCoste	... 3162 Rue de la Bastille Boisbriand QC., J7H 1K7	... <i>The Light Bearer</i>	modecoste@hotmail.com
1920	Chile *	... Mr Cesar Ortega Ortiz	... Casilla 11 Sucursal Paseo Estacion, Estacion Central, Santiago	... <i>Revista Teosofica Chilena</i>	sociedadateosoficachile2010@gmail.com
1937	Colombia †	... Mrs Nelly Medina de Galvis	... Carr 22, # 45B-38 (Cons. 404), Barrio Palermo, Bogotá	... <i>Selección Teosofica</i>	nmedinaga@yahoo.es
1997	Costa Rica †	... Ms Maria Orlich	... Apartado 8-6710-1000, San José		orlichsm@gmail.com
2007	Croatia ▲	... Mrs Nada Tepeš	... Krajiška ulica 24, 10000 Zagreb	... <i>Teozofija</i>	z.zemlja@gmail.com
1905	Cuba	... Mrs Barbara A. Fariñas Piña	... Apartado de Correos 6365, La Habana 10600		teocuba.sociedad@gmail.com
1987	Dominican Rep. †	... Mrs Magaly Polanco	... Calle Santa Agueda 1652 Les Chalet Col San Juan Puerto Rico Apartado 23 00926		polancomagaly@yahoo.com
1888	England	... Mrs Jenny Baker	... 50 Gloucester Place, London W1U 8EA		president@theosoc.org.uk
1907	Finland	... Mrs Mirva Jaatinen	... Teosofinen Seura, Vironkatu 7 C 2, Fin 00170, Helsinki	... <i>Teosofi</i>	info@teosofinenseura.fi ylisihteeri@teosofinenseura.fi
1899	France	... Mrs Jeannine (Nano) Leguay	... 4 Square Rapp, 75007 Paris	... <i>Le Lotus Bleu</i>	editionsadyar@wanadoo.fr
1902	Germany	... Mrs Manuela Kaulich	... Hauptstr. 39, 93138 Lappersdorf	... <i>Adyar</i>	theosophie-adyar@gmx.de
1928	Greece	... Mrs Eirini Kefaloudi	... 25 Voukourestiou St., 106 71-Athens	... <i>Ilisos</i>	info@theosophicalsociety.gr
1907	Hungary †	... Mr Thomas Martinovich	... Hunyadi Janos ut 17. II. 8, H-1011 Budapest	... <i>Teozofia</i>	info@teozofia.hu
1921	Iceland	... Mr Kristinn Ágúst Fridfinnsson	... PO Box 1257 Ingólfsstraeti 22, 121 Reykjavik	... <i>Gangleri</i>	iceland.ts@gmail.com
1891	India	... Mr S. Sundaram	... The Theosophical Society, Varanasi 221 010	... <i>The Indian Theosophist</i>	theosophyys@gmail.com
1912	Indonesia	... Mr Widayatmoko	... Dsn. Parelegi no. 21, RT 02/ RW 09, Desa Purwodadi, Kecamatan Purwodadi, 67163 Pasuruan, Jawa Timur	... <i>Teosofi</i>	indotheosofi@gmail.com

1919	Ireland *	... Mrs Marie Harkness	... 97 Mountsandel Road, Coleraire, UK BT52 1TA	...	marieharkness@yahoo.co.uk
1954	Israel ▲	... Mr Abraham Oron	... PO Box 9114, Ramat-Gan, Israel 5219002	... Or	ornet@theosophia.co.il
1902	Italy	... Mr Antonio Girardi	... Viale Quintino Sella, 83/E, 36100 Vicenza	... Rivista Italiana di Teosofia	sti@teosofica.org
1997	Ivory Coast *	... Mr Pierre-Magloire Kouahoh	... Yopougon, 23 Rue Princesse B. P. 3924, Abidjan 23	... Sophia	pm_kouahoh@hotmail.com
1919	Mexico	... Mr Enrique Sanchez	... Ignacio Mariscal 126, Col. Tabacalera Mexicana, Mexico, D.F. 06030	...	sede@sociedadteosofica.mx info@sociedadteosofica.mx
1897	Netherlands, The	... Mr Wim Leys	... Tolsraat 154, 1074 VM Amsterdam	... Theosophia	info@teosofie.nl
1896	New Zealand	... Mr John Vorstermans	... 18, Belvedere Street, Epsom, Auckland 1022	... TheoSophia	np@theosophy.org.nz
1913	Norway *	... Dr Saleh Noshie	... N-6873-Marifjora	...	saleh.noshie@bedriftshelse1.no
1935	Orlando ▲	... Mr Carl Metzger	... 1606 New York Ave. Orlando, Florida, 32803-1838, USA	...	Theosophical SocietyCF@gmail.com
1948	Pakistan † Jamshed Memorial Hall, M. A. Jinnah Road, opp. Radio Pakistan, Karachi	... The Karachi Theosophist	bhagwanbharvani@hotmail.com
1924	Peru †	... Mr Julio Pomar Calderón	... Av Republica de Portugal 152, Breña, Lima 5	... Búsqueda	sede-central@sociedadteosoficaenperu.pe
1933	Philippines, The	... Mr Rosel Doval-Santos	... Corner P. Florentino and Iba Streets, Quezon City, Manila	... The Philippine Theosophist	philtheos@gmail.com
1921	Portugal	... Mrs Ana Maria Coelho de Sousa	... Sociedade Teosófica de Portugal, Rua José Estêvão, 10 B, 1150-202 Lisboa	... Osiris	geral@sociedadteosoficadeportugal.pt
1925	Puerto Rico †	... Mrs Magaly Polanco	... Apartado 36-1766 Correo General. San Juan, Puerto Rico 00936-1766	... Heraldo Teosófico	polancomagaly@yahoo.com
2012	Qatar ▲	... Mr Lijo Joseph	... Crewing Officer, Teyseer Services Company P.O. Box 2431, Doha	...	qatarblavatskylodge@yahoo.com
2013	Russia †	... Mr Alexey Besputin	... Energetikov Street 3-108, Lesnoi Gorodok, Odincovo region, Moscow oblast, 143080	... Teosoficheskoe Obozrenie (The Theosophical Review)	pr@ts-russia.org
1910	Scotland *	... Mr Stuart Trotter	... 28 Great King Street, Edinburgh, EH3 6QH	... Circles	albion.trotter@gmail.com
1992	Slovenia *	... Mrs Breda Zagar	... Kunaverjeva 1 SLO-1000 Ljubljana	... Teozofska Misel	zagarbreda@gmail.com
1921	Spain	... Mrs Angels Torra Buron	... Av. Vall d'or, 85-87 08197 - Valldoreix (Spain)	... Sophia	presidencia@sociedadteosofica.es
1926	Sri Lanka †	... Mr M. B. Dassanayake	... 2-C/60, Matthegoda Housing Scheme, Matthegoda	... The Sri Lanka Theosophist	mbdassa@gmail.com
1895	Sweden	... Mrs Ing-Britt Wiklund	... Kalle Posts väg 48, S-702 29 Örebro	... Tidlös Visdom	ing-britt@wiklund-orebro.se
1910	Switzerland †	... Mrs Eliane Gaillard	... 17 Chemin de la Côte, CH -1282 Dardagny, Genève	... The Lotus	egaillard@bluewin.ch
1997	Togo *	... Mr Kouma Dakey	... S.O., A.R.T.T., BP 76, Adeta	...	org@theosophy.in.ua
2013	Ukraine *	... Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko	... Office 3, 7-A Zhylianska St., Kiev 01033	... Svitoch	admin@theosophical.org
1886	USA	... Mr Tim Boyd	... PO Box 270, Wheaton, IL 60187-0270	... The Quest	st.uruguay@gmail.com
1925	Uruguay *	... Mr Ramon Garcia	... Javier Barrios Amorin 1085, Casilla de Correos 1553, Montevideo	...	nellynouel5@gmail.com
1925	Venezuela †	... Mrs Nelly Nouel	... Av. Macaure Qta. Amore, Mararaquay, Caracas	...	theosophywales@yahoo.co.uk
1922	Wales *	... Mrs Julie Cunningham	... Bryn Adda, Brynsiencyn, Llanfairpwll, Anglesey, LL61 6NX UK	...	

Date refers to the date of formation

* Regional Association

† Presidential Agency

▲ Lodge attached to Adyar

The Council of the European Federation of National Societies: *Chairman:* Miss Trâm-Thi-Kim-Diêu, 67 Rue des Pommiers, F-45000 Orleans, France. Email: trankimdiu@msn.com
 Inter-American Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mrs Isis M. B. Resende, SGAS 603 conj. E s/n. Brasília-DF, CEP 70200-630 - Brazil. Email: imbresende@gmail.com
 Indo-Pacific Theosophical Federation: *President:* Mr John Vorstermans, 60B Riro Street, Point Chevalier, Auckland 1022, New Zealand. Email: john@theosophy.org.nz
 Pan-African Theosophical Federation: *Chairman:* Mr Jack Hartmann, 9 Ronean, 38 Princess Avenue, Windsor E 2194, South Africa. Email: hartmann.jack.c@gmail.com

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Mr Surendra Narayan, c/o Anupam Narayan, L-20, IInd Floor, South Extension, Part II, New Delhi 110 049, India (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr Bhupendra Vora, 108 Highfield Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire ND3 7PH, UK (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr Dusan Zagar, Kunaverjeva, 1, SLO-1000, Slovenia (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr Keith Fisher, 5 Homesdale Place, Darlington, Western Australia 6070 (for 2014, 2015 and 2016)

Mr D. K. Govindaraj, 3067/1 Brigade Citadel, Apt 202 Vivekananda Road, Yadavagiri, Mysore – 570 020, Karnataka State, India (for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

Mr P. K. Jayaswal, No.1, SBI Officer's Colony, Sheikhura Raja Bazaar, P.O.B.V. College, Patna – 800 014, India (for 2015, 2016, resigned for 2017)

Mr R. C. Tampi, "Ragam", Eranhippalam, Calicut – 673 006, Kerala, India (for 2015, 2016 and 2017)

Mr Vicente Hao Chin Jr., No. 143, Maria Clara Street, Talayam, Quezon City, The Philippines (for 2016, 2017 and 2018)

Ms Trãn-Thi-Kim-Diêu, No. 4, Square Rapp, 75007 Paris, France (for 2016, 2017 and 2018)

MINUTES

of the Theosophical Society General Council Meeting held on
Friday, 30 December 2016, and adjourned
on Friday, 6 January 2017, at Adyar

P R E S E N T

Mr Tim Boyd	<i>President and proxy for Cuba, Greece, and Mexico</i>
Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy	<i>Vice-President and proxy for Mr Dusan Zagar</i>
Ms Marja Artamaa	<i>Secretary and proxy for Bolivia, and Finland</i>
Mr K. Narasimha Rao	<i>Treasurer</i>
Mr Jack Hartmann	<i>General Secretary, Africa South and proxy for Africa East</i>
Mr John Osmond Boakye	<i>General Secretary, Africa West</i>
Mr Esteban Langlois	<i>General Secretary, Argentina</i>
Mrs Linda Oliveira	<i>General Secretary, Australia and proxy for Mr Keith Fisher</i>
Mr Marcos L. B. Resende	<i>General Secretary, Brazil</i>
Mrs Jenny Baker	<i>General Secretary, England</i>
Mrs Manuela Kaulich	<i>General Secretary, Germany</i>
Mr S Sundaram	<i>General Secretary, India and proxy for Mr P. K. Jayaswal</i>
Mr Antonio Girardi	<i>General Secretary, Italy</i>
Mr Wim Leys	<i>General Secretary, Netherlands</i>
Mr John Vorstermans	<i>General Secretary, New Zealand</i>
Mr Tim Boyd	<i>General Secretary, U.S.A</i>
Mr Vicente Hao Chin, Jr.	<i>Additional Member</i>
Mr D. K. Govindaraj	<i>Additional Member</i>
Prof. R. C. Tampi	<i>Additional Member</i>
Ms Trân-Thi-Kim-Diêu	<i>Additional Member and proxy for Belgium, France, Portugal, and Spain</i>

Present as Observers :

Mrs Isis Resende, *Chairman of the Inter-American Theosophical Federation*
Mr Albert Schichl, *Austria*
Mrs Patrizia Calvi, *Italy*
Mr Saleh Noshie, *Norway*
Mrs Blanka Blaj Bosrtar, *Slovenia*
Mrs Lola Rumi, *Spain*
Mrs Birgitta Skarbo, *Sweden*
Mrs Svitlana Gavrylenko, *Ukraine*

The President welcomed those present.

1. Confirmation of Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 30 December 2015 at Adyar, having been

circulated, were taken as read, accepted, and signed, after correcting the observer Mr Domen Koccevar being a member of the TS in America, not that of Slovenia.

2. Matters arising out of the Minutes

Point 14 in last year's Minutes: The matter of the lands outside the TS Campus will be put to the GC, when it is appropriate to sell them. Value and possibilities have been examined to some extent, but not yet enough for any proposals.

3. Voting for Additional General Council members

The terms of Additional Members of the General Council Mr Surendra Narayan, Mr Bhupendra Vora, Mr Dusan Zagar and Mr Keith Fisher came to an end on 31 December 2016.

The President had nominated *Ms Els Rijneker*, for election under Rule 2 of the Rules and Regulations as Additional Member of the General Council for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019. The result of the voting was as follows:

	<i>For:</i>	<i>Against:</i>	<i>Abstained:</i>
Ms Els Rijneker	27	0	0

Ms Els Rijneker was declared elected as Additional Member of the General Council for the years 2017, 2018, and 2019.

4. Report on the Non-English Publications Fund

The Secretary reported that the NEPF account, managed by the European Federation of the TS, in UBS Bank, Switzerland, was closed on 28 April 2016 and the assets were transferred to the NEPF account held in the TS America. There were two reasons for this: 1) charges of the Bank had gone up over 300% within a year, and 2) UBS Bank informed in November 2015 that by the end of April 2016, they would close their relationship with all customers having assets under € 500,000.

On 30 September 2015 the balance of the NEPF account in UBS Bank was € 53,189. When selling the investments in April 2016, the transfer amount to NEPF in USA was € 52,758.

In 30 September 2016 the balance of NEPF account held by the TS in America was \$94,060.

Grant was given to Bangladesh for printing a) *At the Feet of the Master* and b) *Principles of Theosophical Work* by I. K. Taimni in Bengali language, Rs.30,000, i.e. \$448.

The NEPF Committee decides about the grants. Funds holders manage the Funds

and report yearly to the GC. The Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and Ms Trần-Thi-Kim-Diêu.

5. Report on the International Funds

The Secretary reported that on 30 September 2016 the

a) International Funds in Australia were

ABC Fund (including Endowment Fund): A\$652,437

Adyar Security Fund: A\$117,965

The only usage has been the yearly grant of A\$7,000 from the Fund to Adyar Security.

b) International Funds in USA were

Theosophical Investment Trust: \$1,435,311

Theosophical Society in America: \$55,249

The President pointed out that the Funds have had limited use in recent history. The Funds are meant to be used when needed for international work, which is to be foreseen in the future.

c) The Renovation Funds in USA and the Netherlands were created during 2016 as requested by the President for the renovations to Adyar. Usage of the Funds is made with the approval of the Executive Committee. The balance in 2016 of the Renovation Funds were:

Adyar Renovation Fund in USA: \$67,043

Renovation Fund Adyar: € 45,990

(+€ 100,000 promised)

It was restated that the Finance Committee includes the President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary. It was also noted to give the figures of expenses in the GC meeting, not only the balances.

6. Report by the President on Headquarters

The unfortunate news during the year was that the new Adyar Theatre roof collapsed in April 2016 during a heavy, although short, storm. A Failure Report was made by the Indian Institute of Technology. The main reasons were caused by the design flaw and workmanship flaw from the Contractors side. On the TS side there was inadequate internal monitoring and supervision, a person doing the job.

There are things to be learned from this, from the procedural and technical points of view, which was included in the Adyar Theatre Roof Report. Fortunately, no one was injured.

Other things during the year included the cleaning of the garbage accumulated on the Adyar River banks from the historic flooding of November and December 2015. This was done by volunteers of the Chennai Trekking Club, who came each Friday morning for some hours during 8 months until the arrival of the cyclone on 12 December 2016. They gathered tons of garbage.

The cyclone brought down 200 large trees on the TS Adyar compound, blocking the roads and paths. A phenomenal effort was made to clear the heavy trunks, to repair the broken pipes, and replace the temporary theatre roof, much of which was blown away, and so on. Again no one was injured. The goal was to have places cleared for the International Convention to be able to take place, and it was accomplished. Much is still to be done during the next year due to the effects of the cyclone.

Digitizing work has continued in the Archives and in the Adyar Library and Research Centre. The archives was utilized by researchers, authors, and writers after a break of many years.

A wholistic health centre of Yoga, Naturopathy, and Ayurveda was opened for residents, workers, and members. Also instruction classes for yoga were given during the autumn.

The Anthroposophists had twice used the premises for their teachers' training modules.

The School of the Wisdom had a special session in Spanish at Bhowali, the Himalayan Centre of the Indian Section, with full attendance of about 35 from Latin America and Spain.

7. Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016

The Treasurer explained major points of the Report.

The Treasurer's Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016 had been previously circulated by email and were approved.

It was mentioned that the 5 million rupees loaned to the Indian Section in previous year, for completing the work at the Himalayan Centre of the Indian Section in Bhowali, was fully returned as scheduled.

Next year it was suggested to deliver the Finances in paper in the meeting, although they are sent by email earlier, and also to use the projector to present the figures.

8. The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2018

The Treasurer presented the Budget. It was mentioned that the budgeting process is done in cooperation with Department Heads. International Funds have not been budgeted. A remark was made that some departments have used only part of their budget, and some have needed more. A suggestion was given that part of the department budget could be moved to other use, if not used in a particular department.

The Vice-President suggested that the GC establish a policy requiring any building/maintenance project exceeding 0.5 lakh rupees be required to have three quotations, and insurance in case of failure. After discussion it was determined that the substance of the suggestion can be implemented without additional bureaucracy.

a) A framework for structural projects was noted and concurred on to be as follows:

- To obtain insurance for structural projects
- To obtain structural Certificates
- To have three quotations to choose from

In some continuous and well-founded cases it is wise to go on with the known contractor, and every now and then compare with the amounts of the market.

b) It was suggested to have a budget for renovation apart from the Maintenance Department.

The Budget for the year ending 31 March 2018 was considered, discussed, and approved with points (a) and (b) mentioned above, and all were in favour.

9. Appointment of Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2018

M/s Srihari & Co. were unanimously re-appointed as Auditors for the year ending 31 March 2018 on the same terms as before, but with an increase of charges from Rs.75,000 to Rs.100,000.

10. Vote on amendments to the International Rules

The Rules Committee had delivered a comprehensive set of proposed amendments with reasons for changes to the International Rules, for voting item by item.

Total votes received was 34. Two said NO to every amendment, and Rule 23 and 27 received some NOs. The result is:

Rule 23: 30 YES, 4 NO

Rule 27: 31 YES, 3 NO

All other Rules: 32 YES, 2 NO

According to Rule 49, three-fourths of the votes of the members voting in person, in writing, or by proxy, is required. Out of a total of 34 votes received, three-fourths is 25.5.

The amendments to the International Rules and Regulations were approved.

The President thanked the Rules Committee for their work, and especially the Chairperson, Linda Oliveira. Linda thanked the Committee members.

11. Appointment of Executive Committee (EC)

The President presented his suggestions for the Executive Committee members. Also some other suggestions for members were given. According to the newly approved

Rules, the EC must have 12 members, which is 2 more than in previous years. A minimum of 6 members must be from the General Council. The 4 officers of the TS (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) are ex-officio members of the EC.

The President's suggestion was voted. 14 in favour with 12 proxies, 2 opposed with 1 proxy, 1 abstained.

	<i>For:</i>	<i>Against:</i>	<i>Abstained:</i>
President's list	26	3	1

The following Executive Committee members were appointed for 2017:

Mr Tim Boyd	President (ex-officio)
Dr Chittaranjan Satapathy	Vice-President (ex-officio)
Ms Marja Artamaa	Secretary (ex-officio)
Mr K. Narasimha Rao	Treasurer (ex-officio)
Mrs Jenny Baker	General Council Member
Prof. R. C. Tampi	General Council Member
Mr S. Sundaram	General Council Member
Mr S. Harihara Raghavan	Member
Mr S. Ramkumar	Member
Dr M. V. Rengarajan	Member
Mr C. A. Shinde	Member
Mr A. L. Somayaji	Member

12. Renovation Project

The President mentioned the targeted renovations: Headquarters building, Blavatsky Bungalow, Raja House, and Leadbeater Chambers. The first three ones and the Guest House, are classified as heritage buildings. For the new Archives there are two options: a) to build an addition for the Archives associated to the Library, or b) to occupy available space in the Vasanta Press building.

Planning will continue during the year.

13. Discussion on work around the world

The General Secretaries present reported the main points from their country.

The observer from Ukraine, the Organizing Secretary, Mrs Svitlana Gavrilenko, gave a presentation of the HPB Museum in Dnjetropetrovsk.

14. Any Other Business.

a. The Purpose and Scope of the TS. A proposal from Linda Oliveira

Linda Oliveira reported that there was a lack of understanding about the purpose and scope of the TS in some parts of the Australian Section despite the existence of the Three Objects, the General Council's Freedom of Thought resolution and the Council's Freedom of the Society resolution. It was discussed to develop a Resolution or Statement on this subject, or to clarify the three Objects of the TS to give more shape to the matter.

In the adjourned meeting on 6 January 2017 it was decided to request the GS's of New Zealand and Australia to work further on a suggestion for Resolution, and circulate it to the GC members.

b. Pending Court Cases, request from Manuela Kaulich

A brief Status Report on the six Court Cases was presented. The case of KFI to vacate the premises in Damodar Gardens came to a solution by the High Court decision to have KFI pay a monthly rent and to vacate the premises by 30 May 2018. The Elections case filed by an Indian member over 2 years ago is pending. The three main suits raised by Ramu, with him being his own attorney, are pending. The Labour Case, which was filed in 1991 is continuing.

c. Restatement of the legal opinion on the Term of the Presidency in relation to Tamil Nadu Regulations, request from Jack Hartmann

At the request of the General Secretary from South Africa a restatement was made, like the last two years, about the length of the term of the Presidency in relation to Tamil Nadu Regulations (Act). A copy of the opinion from Senior Advocate A. L. Somayaji, recent Advocate General for the State of Tamil Nadu, from 2014, which was read last year, was given to those present, and a new Statement made by him for this year, explaining in more detail the interpretation between the Rules of the TS and the Act.

Conclusion: There is no contradiction between the length of the term of the Presidency and those Regulations.

d. Change of the number of Executive Committee members required for a quorum, request from Jack Hartmann and Manuela Kaulich

In this meeting, at point 10, the number of Executive Committee members was voted and accepted to be 12. A quorum consists of 5 members.

e. and f. Request for a resolution to amend the Rules for election procedure of the international President, from Jack Hartmann, and from Manuela Kaulich

In this meeting, at point 10, the election procedure of the international President

was voted and accepted, as presented by the Rules Committee. Requests for further amendments were not taken.

g. World Congress

The Presidential Representative of the East and Southeast Agency for Asia, Mr Sanne Chong, and the Singapore members have expressed that it would be a pleasure and an honour to host the 11th World Congress in Singapore in 2018. This was unanimously accepted.

The time of the Congress would be either in July or August. The dates will be confirmed as soon as possible.

The meeting was adjourned to 6 January 2017 at 8:30 am.

Present in the adjourned meeting:

From those GC members who attended the meeting on 30 December the following were not present: Mr Narasimha Rao, Mrs Linda Oliveira, Mrs Manuela Kaulich, Mr Antonio Girardi.

The new additional member Ms Els Rijneker attended.

Observers were: Mrs Isis de Resende, Ms Lola Rumi, Mrs Birgitta Skarbo, Mr Saleh Noshie, Mr Fernando Mansur and Mr Edwaldo S. Souza.

Concerning item 14 a) about the purpose and scope of the TS, it was decided to request the GS's of New Zealand and Australia to work further on a suggestion for Resolution, and circulate it to the GC members.

h) Long-term Planning

Vicente Hao Chin, Jr., led the discussion about a vision for the TS for the next 50 years, and what we would like to do about it. Then a discussion based on his PowerPoint presentation took place.

Decisions made:

The PowerPoint presentation, with comments, will be circulated to the GC members.

A 4–5-day brainstorming and planning meeting will be scheduled for a time when both the President and Mr Hao Chin can be available. The meeting will include GC members and Presidents of Federations who are able to attend, and will take place either in March or August 2017. The venue will be coordinated with the ITC Naarden Centre, the Netherlands.

The purpose for the meeting is to gather ideas to be discussed at the next GC meeting, and then to consider implementation.

15. Closing the meeting

The President thanked all present, and the meeting was closed at 11:20 am on 6 January 2017.

The GC meeting was held on 30 December from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm.

The adjourned meeting was held on 6 January 2017, from 8:30 am to 11:20 am.

Marja Artamaa
International Secretary
Adyar, Chennai 600 020

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GRTS
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